TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE.

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Poetry.

For the Blade.

A SOLDIER'S REMINISCENCE.

BY HENRY J. SAVAGE.

Scene—A Reserve Picket Post. Time—Midnight.

"See! on yon Rappahannock's stream,
The moonbeams lightly dancing,
Casting a light of golden gleam
O'er vale and hill entrancing;
Whilst far and near, now low, then clear,
The insect world is humming!
"Ah, friends, I fear the time is near,
When we must quit this 'bumming!'"

Thus spoke out Jasper, young and fair,
With eyes of Love's own beaming,
As flinging back his nut-brown hair,
That to the winds was streaming,
He sent a laugh the echoes caught
And wove into a chorus,
So full of health and vigor fraught
That sadness came not o'er us.

Prophetic words! The morning broke
Upon us with a rattle
Of musketry, which then awoke
The big guns, and the battle
Came full upon us with a rush!
Three volleys next and a cheer
From the lines of blue—then a hush
Profound and a nameless fear.

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The fight was o'er, the orchard won,
And a search made for the dead:
The first was Jasper, in the sun,
With a bullet thro' his head;
Whilst vainly we the sight would shun
Where the death-bolt true had sped!

For the Blade.

LOVE IN THE HOME.

BY GRACE S. BURGESS.

Oft we pity the wanderers plodding along,
Homeless, friendless, with joys unblest,
And sigh as we think how barren of song
Are their days, how full of unrest;
Too, we wish 'twere not so and upon them bestow
The wealth of our heart's truest test.

But ne'er do we think of those in the home,
And more to be pitied are they
Who sit by the hearthstone all cheerless in gloom,
Because straying Love is away,
And they will not call him, and forever install him,
As Master of Home, there to stay.

Oh, the heart must be true and to kind thoughts inclined,
The face with love-light must glow,
And the hand must touch gently, or home is, we find
A place of discord and woe;
'Tis the cheeriest cot, or the dreariest hut,
If love dwells within it, or no.
Woodhull, Ill.

Our Story Teller.

STEPHANIE.

BY MRS. ALEXANDER FRASER.

How on earth could we love her? She had caused us such bitter disappointment!

And how could Gerald care for a pale, strange-looking little witch, with her queer name after her French mother? For witch of course, she must be to have bewitched her fastidious brother to the extent of marrying her.

Gerald was our only brother, 26 years of age, tall and *svelte* and handsome, and the idol of his sisters—two of us—one widowed—and the other, myself, an old maid.

Few sisters are perfectly satisfied, as a rule, when their brother has found some one dearer than those who have loved him and administered to his comfort all their lives. Yet I really think we should have been moderately content if his choice had been to our own taste.

Why it had not been so was just a mystery. Edith Falconer, whom we had set our hearts on seeing Mrs. Gerald Fane, was a "daughter of the gods," tall and divinely fair, and it puzzled us how his heart or his fancy could have traveled towards the daughter of a Canadian planter, when our letters were constantly full of Edith's beauty and Edith's goodness, and when we had made a point of dilating on her attractions from morn till eve whenever he was at home.

Edith was with us when the letter came bidding us welcome his wife, and I saw the surprise and disappointment legibly written in her beautiful blue eyes.

Not that Edith was really in love with him, but she had always felt an enormous interest in the brother of her dearest friends—an interest which we had fully thought would ripen into love.

And this if what Gerald wrote:

"I shall bring her to you, my poor, stricken little Stephanie. She would be quite alone in the wide world now if it was not for me! We were married beside the death-bed of her father, and she was scarcely a wife before she was wholly an orphan, with never a relative on earth. I have promised her so much love from you both that she will not, I know, feel the loss of mother and sister who were drowned on their way out to America—while I shall fill the place of all others—father, brother, husband."

As we read this we felt convinced how it was that Gerald had married her. It was from sheer pity. We fully decided this point, and it did not make us feel more pleasantly on the subject, for we were sure that poor Gerald had been victimized, sacrificed, etc., etc.

We went about our preparations, however, for their coming; furnished the rooms newly and prettily, and did our best to insure comfort to the bride, but it must be confessed our hearts were not in our work.

On the evening they were expected we had no one at the house, thinking Stephanie would prefer it so. That is, we had only Edith Falconer—but then she was just one of ourselves.

Gerald looked handsomer than ever as he sprang out of the carriage and rushed up the steps, and with a radiant face kissed us both. Then he ran down again and lifted out a tiny figure, which he bore in his arms as if it had been a child, and, placing it before us, said:

"Here's my darling!—the sweetest little darling that ever trod the earth!"

He went away then to attend to the luggage, and she made a sort of movement as if to rush after him, but stopped abruptly. Then, with quivering lips, she lifted her glance to us with a helpless, wistful look; but presently a sober light crept into her great dark, wild-looking eyes, and she clasped our hands and bent and kissed them.

After this we took her into the drawing room and introduced her to Edith, and I saw her queer, dark little face brighten up strangely as Edith greeted her affectionately.

"Please call me Ste and not Mrs. Fane," she whispered in a low, frighted voice, "my heart yearns to be called by that name. Papa loved it so!" and turning her face away, she sobbed once or twice.

Gerald came in just then, and, shaking hands with Edith, went over to his wife at once.

"Come, my bird! You had better let my sister show you to your room so that you can trim your feathers a little," he said, lovingly stroking back the soft, fluffy dark hair gently from her forehead. My sister carried her off at once and of course Gerald followed. He did not seem able to take his eyes off her for a moment.

"What a queer little fright she is—she looks like an elf! He must only have married her from pity, I suppose!" I could not help saying.

"Not a fright, surely!" Edith answered quickly. "We see her in an unfavorable moment. Her grief has told on her face, but she has glorious eyes, and I can see what took Gerald. It is her winning manner—just like a petted child's."

I glanced at Edith admiringly thinking what an angel of forgiveness she was, and when the bride came down again I took a malicious pleasure in comparing her with Edith.

Edith, so fair and so lovely, with hair like spun gold, and wild rosebloom on her cheeks and a graceful, willowy figure. And Ste—to call her by the curious abbreviation she wished—so small and dusky, with a colorless skin, and nothing to recommend her but two immense black eyes, which certainly were as lustrous as twin stars and as soft as velvet.

Later in the evening, when dinner was over and Edith had drawn her away to look at Gerald's drawings, he came up and sat down by me.

"Ellen, you must not form an opinion of Ste's attractions now," he whispered earnestly; "she is not herself; naturally she is as bright and happy as a bird, and altogether charming. You must help me to chase away her trouble and bring back her smiles. And then, you don't know how pretty my little one is when she smiles," he went on enthusiastically.

And wondering how she could ever be pretty, I forgot to answer. So, after a momentary pause, he said:

"Edith is more beautiful than ever, I see!"

"Ah!" I thought, "he could not help comparing these two—the girl he had needlessly thrown aside and the girl he had linked himself to for life."

It was not long before Ste "was more like herself," as Gerald said. Her sorrow had been so wild and so passionate that naturally it soon wore itself out. The color came back to her dark cheeks, additional lustre to her eyes, and I could often hear her caroling snatches of songs.

They were mostly French ones—some with a wonderful pathos ringing through them, and the pronunciation of her maternal tongue was the prettiest thing imaginable. Yes, she was growing merry enough.

Gerald's love was so perfect, and he filled the place of father, brother and husband so entirely, as he had said, that he left her nothing to be wished for.

My sister was growing very fond of her, and declared her to be very pretty, but I could see no beauty in her, neither could I love her—my devotion to Edith utterly precluded it.

She grew to be popular with Gerald's men friends too. They thought her charming, and his especial friend, a young fellow who was rapidly rising in his profession, and who had been an admirer of Edith's, came more frequently than the rest.

Before Gerald's marriage Dr. Percival had made small progress in his wooing, but since, Edith had seemed more favorably inclined towards him.

He was passionately fond of singing and had a superb voice. Edith could not sing a note, but Ste's and Mark Percival's voices blended splendidly together. Thus hours were spent, every hour, I thought, that he could spare from his practice, in these duets.

And Gerald, who was also *fanatico per la musica*, never seemed to tire of listening to the two.

I was very wicked, I know. I really believed Ste to be artful and designing; her childlike, blithe manner I fancied was assumed. I saw how happy she was in the hours spent in Mark Percival's society, and it made me dislike her ten times more for finding pleasure anywhere but with her husband.

I consoled myself with believing that she was trying to bewitch poor Edith's lover as she had bewitched my brother, and listened indignantly when she said in her pretty, childish fashion:

"I wish Edith and Dr. Percival would come; it's getting quite late and they are not here yet, and I miss them so! Isn't Dr. Percival handsome and accomplished, Ger?"

I don't think a doubt of her ever entered his mind until I put it there. I began with a look, or a little word opportunely dropped.

Then I rushed into the thing suddenly, and shall never forget the expression of pain on his face when I said:

"Mark Percival admires Ste very much, Gerald. How well their voices suit! I think if he had chanced to meet her before her marriage you would have had a very formidable rival."

He did not answer; he grew dreadfully white, and, biting his lips, turned away.

But I had not done.

There was an excuse for me, for I loved my brother with all my heart and I was jealous for him.

"Hasn't Ste a wonderfully powerful voice for such a little creature?"

"That is a lovely thing she is singing now. It is Beethoven's 'Adelaide,' isn't it?" he answered quietly.

"Yes; her favorite song, or rather Mark Percival's, which is about the same!"

He looked at me sternly for the first time in his life, and then said:

"You have never really loved any one, Ellen. But be careful that you don't plant thorns that may prick you more than any one else."

His words were prophetic. How deeply I repented my wickedness no one knows. Yet at that time I hated Ste for being the cause of the first rebuke that Gerald had given, and in Edith's ear I put a word now and then that soon built up a wall of ice between her and my brother's wife.

Gerald grew silent and even a little morose.

And Ste felt it and was hurt that he did not tell her the cause of his change. She became reserved, crushing back her loving impulses; and as Mark Percival's visits had suddenly grown less frequent, Gerald thought Ste was grieving over this. Gerald, who was not a rich man and an artist by profession, worked by night as well as by day—worked to keep himself from thinking. And so some months went by. He was looking miserable at last, and Ste, declaring he was really ill, begged him to take rest. Her anxiety chasing away her latter reserve, she insisted on his seeing a physician, but he steadily refused. She begged them that she might send for Mark Percival.

When she said that I looked at Gerald—a curious look that spoke volumes, she just wanted an excuse to have him again near her, I thought, and my glance told that and more.

Then there came into Gerald's blue eyes an expression that defied my understanding. I could not tell if it was a defiance of me or a curious sort of resignation to the will of a woman whom he worshipped with all his soul.

"Yes," he said, languidly, "send for Percival if it will relieve your mind."

The next day Mark Percival came, and for a long while he and Gerald were closeted together, while Ste and my sister and myself were told not to go near the room; but when Mark Percival came out into the hall Ste spied him from the lawn, and in a moment she was by his side, speaking intently—so intently that she never saw my eyes watching from a bow window in the morning room that jutted out, giving a view of the rest of the building.

By-and-by they went down the steps, side by side, into the garden, and I heard him say, in rather a low voice:

"He must stop work and rest a little, Mrs. Fane. He complains of a pricking sensation in his right side and shoulder. I do not like that. It is rather unfavorable. Still, with our united care, and with rest, I think we shall bring him round."

And Ste answered him with a smile. I could not see that, and believe that she was young and sanguine, and that she never realized her husband's danger. How could I give her credit for this when I suspected her—suspected her as foully as I could—that it was not Gerald whom she loved, but—Mark Percival.

Gerald was resolved to work on in spite of everything. We were not rich, he said, and work was necessary then for several weeks. Ste, instead of passing the hours in his studio, as she used to do, would remain in her own room, with her door locked—sulking, I told her sister.

At last one day a blow fell on us all—a dreadful blow and harder to me since I believed I had helped to bring it—that perhaps I was really the instrument that dealt it. Had I not made my brother unhappy? Perhaps he would not have worked so incessantly in the vain hope of banishing thought.

Ste found him one bright summer's day apparently lifeless beside his easel, and for weeks he lingered, hovering, as it were, between us and eternity.

And his wife, remorseful for her treachery and want of faith, seemed to have no thought but him. She never left him for a moment, and if she slept it was by snatches only, with her head against his pillow, when his slightest movement would awaken her.

After what seemed an age of anxiety to us the doctor said he would live, but never more to work, for Gerald's right arm was paralyzed. I had been growing less bitter in my feelings towards Ste during my brother's illness—she seemed to be really devoted to him. But when they said he was not to work any more with his brush a look of triumph came into her eyes which puzzled me, and again I began to doubt her, and the doubt grew stronger when I saw her meet Mark Percival on the porch, and stand for many a minute in earnest conversation. Once—from behind a laurentinus bush—I saw her place her hand on his arm, and look up into his face, her great, wild, dark eyes full of glittering tears, while she said, with quivering lips:

"How much longer? Oh, these last weeks have been centuries to me. And if—oh, if you have not been deceiving me—I may hope"——

"Everything!" he answered, interrupting her, and taking the mite of a hand in his. "I tell you that you have not many more days to wait, and then we shall both be very happy."

Upon this Ste smiled up into his handsome eyes with a strange, wistful yearning look that drove me almost wild with the bitterest anger and suspicion. Now I dare not even look back to the horrible feeling that filled my heart with regard to the woman whom my brother had made his wife, and in whom he had placed his happiness, his infinite faith, and, more than all, his honor.

But Gerald was in a weak and critical state, and I did not dare to warn him of what I feared. He was very loving and tender to her, and I could see his eyes follow her slight figure wherever she moved with an expression of mingled affection and doubt that was sad to look upon.

When one day she heard Mark Percival's voice at the door, she darted out of the room to meet him, forgetful of a mass of roses on her lap with which she was making a bouquet, and heedless of the lovely fragile flowers in her haste and evident agitation, she trod out their beauty with her feet.

Then I heard Gerald murmur to himself: "Poor little one! She is so young! I hoped to make her happy, but I am so grave and quiet that she cannot love me. God give me strength to bear it!"

I told my sister of this, but she would hardly listen. Ste had bewitched her, and she declared that my brother's wife was a thoughtless child, but nothing worse.

The death of the summer had come and autumn brought its wailing wind, and the leaves died in company with the long bright days, wrapped in splendid cerements of rainbow hues. And Gerald grew no better.

The truth was that he did not care to live.

Ste was in a state of feverish excitement, which seemed to grow worse each hour. One day I felt the crisis was near. Her cheeks burned with two red spots; her eyes had a wilder look, and I knew that her ear was strained to catch every sound of coming footsteps.

At last she heard the welcome sound of Mark Percival's laugh. He had not been near us for a whole week, and, regardless of us she flew down stairs to him.

I heard him exclaim:

"Hurrah! it's all right."

And her answer was:

"God bless you! how good you are."

In another moment or two she ran up stairs again and I followed her; but if she was aware of my supervision she did not care.

Gerald was reclining in an easy chair; his face was ashy pale and he looked a shadow of his old self; but still his face was beautiful in its classical features, and its large, deep blue eyes, over which a fond look always crept when his wife came near.

Ste threw herself on her knees before him, and, catching his thin, white hand, she kissed it passionately.

"At last I can tell you," she gasped between tears and smiles; "you will doubt me no longer, Ger, and forgive me for having had a secret from you; I dared not tell, I was so fearful of a failure. See, Ger, darling, there is no need for you to paint any more; I shall work for you, for us all. Oh, Ger, wont it be a labor of love?"

And she held before him a letter from one of the best firms of publishers in London.

He looked at it, then at her, as if just awakening from a strange wild dream. Before he could speak, however, she dived into her pocket and drew out a roll of bank notes and thrust them into his hand.

"This is all yours, Ger, all yours; I am all yours, am I not? And I shall have more, much more, I hope; oh, do speak to me, Ger, say one little word, please?"

Gerald drew her to him with all the strength left to him and kissed her fondly; oh, the radiant joy that beamed over his poor wan face as he murmured:

"Thank God, thank God, you are all my own, my Ste."

I stole away then. I wanted to hide myself from their sight. How dreadfully I had wronged her. Could she ever forgive me?

Well, I did the most sensible thing I could; I made a clean breast of everything and Ste forgave me fully and freely, with her slender arms around my neck, and in her great black eyes an honest affection, and she laughed in her own elfish, merry fashion, as she said:

"So you thought I could look at any one else in the world, when I had Ger, my own, own Ger, to look at and love, with all my might and main?"

Gerald is quite resigned to the will of Heaven now. True, he can not put his thoughts on canvas, but he tells them to Ste, and she, in her charming manner, weaves them into romances that win her fame and give us luxuries in our home that we never had before.

How much she gives us, does little Ste, and the best gift of all is her love—it is so true, so unselfish.

She has given us something else, too, to brighten the old house. It is a tiny boy, with golden curls and large, serious blue eyes, like Gerald's, and the sweetest smile like his mother. They have christened him Raymond, after Ste's father, but he is a snatch of sunshine to us all, so we call him "Ray."

My life is devoted to him. I love him with a love devoid of selfishness—a love purified by experience and suffering and remorse.

Humor.

SPOOPENDYKE'S PIE.

He Shows Mrs. S. How His Mother Used to Make 'Em.

"My dear," said Mr. Spoopendyke, folding his napkin and pushing his chair back from the table, "my dear, you are a pretty good housekeeper, and once in a while you contrive to cook up a fair meal, but you have no business fooling around a mince pie. There never was but one women who could make a mince pie, and that was my mother."

"I thought this was nice," returned Mrs. Spoopendyke, with just a little quiver resting on her lip. "I got it out of the cook book—"

"And you'd better put it right back in the book as a warning to other amateurs," continued Mr. Spoopendyke. "I don't say that this is especially bad, only it doesn't meet with all the requirements of pie as they were instilled into my young mind. You might work it on foundling hospitals that never had any mother, but it hasn't the soul I used to get out of pie when I lived at home."

"How did your mother make the mince pies, dear?" asked Mrs. Spoopendyke. "If I knew what she used, perhaps I could get up one of which you would eat six slices instead of four." And with this purely feminine dig, Mrs. Spoopendyke looked modestly downward and began folding knife pleatings in the table cloth.

"Come!" exclaimed Mr. Spoopendyke, jumping impetuously from his chair. "If you've got the ingredients, I'll show you how to make a pie that will draw howls of envy from the neighbors," and Mr. Spoopendyke led the way to the kitchen. "Where's your chopping tray and the apples? Fetch me the hand guillotine and the beef! Look alive now, my dear, and we'll startle the world with some revelations on the abstruse subject of mince pie!"

"Let me put this big towel around your neck, so you won't grease your clothes," suggested Mrs. Spoopendyke, dragging out a huge crash towel.

"What's that for?" demanded her husband, contemplating it with no amount of favor. "Which end of the pie is that thing supposed to have influence with? If I make up my mind when I get through that this pie needs to be shaved, I'll put on this skirt, but in the meantime I want room for all my limbs. Now," he continued, as he dumped the beef and apples into the tray and went at them vigorously with the chopping knife; "now you watch the proceedings and note how this pie begins to assume proportions."

"Didn't your mother peel the apples before she chopped them?" asked Mrs. Spoopendyke, quietly.

"Eh!" ejaculated Mr. Spoopendyke, slowing up a little and looking into the tray distrustingly. "Of course not," and he resumed his labors with still more energy. "If you did, there's where you made your mistake. I suppose you peeled the beef, too, didn't ye? Though I don't know," and he stopped short and regarded his work attentively. "It strikes me this meat would chop finer if some one had dropped a pile driver on it once or twice. Anyway, you don't want your meat too fine, and I guess this will do," and Mr. Spoopendyke set the tray full of lumps on the table and rolled up his sleeves.

"What will you have now, dear?" inquired his wife, tenderly.

"Some flour and water," replied Mr. Spoopendyke, cheerily. "It's the crust of a pie that is its genius, and I'm going to turn out a slab of pastry that will be a monument to the artist who is weaving this job. Gimme the flour and water, while I feel as one upon whom the spirit of a successful pie rests visibly!"

Mrs. Spoopendyke brought out the material and once more resumed the relation of pupil to the exercises.

"Anything else, dear?" she asked, as Spoopendyke wet down his flour and jammed his fists in the paste.

"Nothing but profound silence," retorted her husband. "The chief trouble with the crust to your pie is that you allow your attention to be distracted from it at the critical moment. I, on the contrary, will stop boxing this overcoat for that mince meat just at the second it reaches flakiness," and he slammed in more flour and plunged again into his ambitious effort in the way of crust. "There!" said he when he had fought it to to the consistency of sand and mucilage and rolled it out into two thick chunks. "There is the triumph of pie over puttering! Lead out the pan whom the gods would honor, and let's see how this combination of hereditary intelligence and acquired brains will go when it's cooked!"

Mrs. Spoopendyke handed him a pie-pan into which he dropped his bottom crust, and then poured in the mince meat.

"Got to lift your teeth pretty high to get around some of that meat," he observed, as he tried to poke the lumps into position with a stick. "I'm not sure whether mother used to grate the meat or crack it with a hammer, but it don't make so much difference. It's the crust that talks, when you come to conversation on pie. Now, you do this," and he marked out a sprig on the top crust with his thumb; "and when you get it on thus, you pinch it around the edges so. See? My mother used to have an old wheel out of a wooden clock, and she printed landscapes in holes all over the pie. But that isn't necessary. It adds luster, but no dignity, to the performance. Now, we put in the oven, this wise, and in a short time we will have accomplished results in the immediate line of pie."

"It is really wonderful how well you remember how well your mother made them," smiled Mrs. Spoopendyke.

"You won't feel badly because it beats yours?" said Mr. Spoopendyke, kindly. "You won't cry?" and he chucked her under the chin, and opened the stove-door cautiously to see how affairs were progressing.

"I'll try not to," replied Mrs. Spoopendyke, casting her eyes down, and suppressing something that sounded like a sob.

"Let's see. You stick in a broom splint, don't you, when you want to know if the pie is done? Where's your broom? Show me the happy broom that is to be immortalized by testing this grand apotheosis of pie!"

Mrs. Spoopendyke produced the broom, and her husband, carefully selecting one of the splints, jabbed away at the upper crust.

"It won't go in," he remarked rather dolefully, selecting another with similar results. "The trouble is with the broom. Haven't you got a broom that knows something about its business, or is this one of those pious brooms that won't work on Sundays?" and he broke up several more splints in a vain endeavor to penetrate the pie.

"Hadn't you better try the handle, dear?" suggested Mrs. Spoopendyke.

"No, I hadn't better try the handle, dear!" mimicked Mr. Spoopendyke. "Come out here, and let's see what's the occasion of this uncalled for resistance!" and Mr. Spoopendyke hauled his pie out of the oven and fired it down on the table. "Got an idea you're going to be assassinated with a broom splint, haven't ye? Think you're a sort of bulwark of American liberties, and bound to resent foreign intervention, don't ye? Well, you ain't; you're only a measly pie, and you're going to have something stuck in ye, if it takes a cold chisel and a cannon!" and Mr. Spoopendyke stabbed at it with a fork, and then with a chopping-knife, without producing the faintest impression. "You're up in pie, what d'ye s'pose is the matter with the thing?" he asked turning on his wife.

"If I'd been your mother, I should have put some lard in the crust," returned Mrs. Spoopendyke, complacently.

"I don't know how you are going to get lard into a crust that you can't penetrate with a bayonet!" retorted Mr. Spoopendyke, upon whom it began to dawn that there was a hitch somewhere. "I've almost forgotten how mother did try pies to see if they were done."

"Did she ever try a club?" inquired Mrs. Spoopendyke, timidly.

"No, she didn't try a club!" roared Mr. Spoopendyke. "Come hither, my gentle pie!" he howled, planting his fist in the middle of the apparatus. "Listen to the voice of the siren inquiring within!" and he dropped it on the floor, and planted his heel on it. "Front door closed for repairs; entrance at the back!" and he kicked the whole business to the ceiling.

"Your mother must have been very vigorous for her age," observed Mrs. Spoopendyke, calmly.

"It's those gasted lumps of meat," snarled Mr. Spoopendyke, picking up his pie, and examining its knobs and bumps attentively. "I thought they'd melt when subjected to intense heat. Anyway, the inside of that pie is all right if I could only get the lid off. Got anything I can get under the edge and lift the roof off this business? Gimme that can opener! Give way, now! Whoop! Once more! Ki yah! All together, now! Whe-e-e! There she comes!" And the crust gave way revealing chunks of beef and apple parings, half-cooked, and still steaming.

"I suppose your mother put in the spices and cider after the hired man had wrenched the pie open," remarked Mrs. Spoopendyke, solemnly.

"You do, do ye?" squealed Mr. Spoopendyke, squatting down and resting his hands on his knees, while he grinned in his wife's face. "That lump of quicksilver you call your mind, has got round to where it transacts the supposing business, has it? P'raps you don't like the pie? I s'pose you've got some fashionable notion that you don't care to associate with this pie? Well, you needn't. I don't force unpleasant acquaintances on my wife! I believe in making home a paradise, I do! Go forth, pie!" and he shied it through the window, glass, sash, and all. "That suit you?" he yelled. "Does your moral nature feel relieved by the absence of the pie you have been instrumental in casting upon the chilled charities of an unsympathetic world?"

"I guess that pie can take care of itself," suggested Mrs. Spoopendyke, soothingly. "The next time I make one, I'll try and have it just as your mother used to."

"You'll fetch it!" roared Mr. Spoopendyke, stamping up and down the kitchen and slapping the flour off his coat. "You never had any trouble with things, after I have shown you how! Some day I'll pour lard in your ear, and spice in your eye, and leave you in the oven to reflect on how *you'd* like to be cut off from intellectual social intercourse, just because you ain't half baked!" and Mr. Spoopendyke slammed the door after him, and mounted the staircase with heavy tread.

"I don't care," murmured Mrs. Spoopendyke, as she swept up the *debris*. "I don't care. If that is the way his mother made pie, I don't wonder it left a strong impression on his mind."

And with this charitable view of the situation, Mrs. Spoopendyke sat down to the consideration of whether she'd better make a false train for her new black silk.

—*Drake's Travelers' Magazine.*

Remarkable Wisdom of a Long-headed Gentleman.

"There are two occasions when a man should not speak," said old Sam Johnson, turning to Boswell.

"What are those occasions, colonel—excuse me, I mean Doctor? Thought we lived in Arkansaw. I ask, what are those occasions?" taking out his note-book.

"One is when he has nothing to say."

"Yes," said Boswell, taking down the remark.

"And the other is when he has just said what he has had to say."

"Wisdom," muttered Boswell, reaching for his pencil, which had fallen on the floor. "May I ask, Doctor, who was the most discreet man of speech you ever knew?"

"Yes. His name was Anderson Haley. Used to haul cross ties out in Saline county."

"In what way was he so discreet of speech, Doctor?"

"In never saying anything that should not be said."

"Did he never, in a moment of forgetfulness, speak without mature deliberation?"

"Sir, he never did."

"A most remarkable man."

"Sir, not necessarily; he was dumb."

—*Arkansaw Traveler.*

Girls Analytically Considered.

Bloomington Through Mail.

Girls are of few days and full of mischief, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

When the fair young girl cheweth her gum with greater haste and stampeth her pretty foot, do thou look out.

She cometh forth in the evening in low neck and short sleeves; but a-morning she lieth in bed while her mother hustleth.

When the sleigh-bell tinkleth she standeth at the window and yearneth for a beau, and when he cometh she doeth up his purse. He wrappeth the buffalo robe about her and huggeth her much and stayeth out beyond his time, and the livery man addeth four good dollars to his bill.

In the evening he hieth himself away to her father's mansion. He goeth in and sitteth by the fire, and ere he leaveth he poppeth the question and she jumpeth at the chance.

When the cock croweth he taketh his departure, and when he remembereth the smallness of his salary, he kicketh himself and compareth himself to an ass; yea, verily.

Saved Again.

She was a Boston speculator's wife. When he came home the other evening and told her that Mexican Central had busted him she quietly gathered all her jewels together and said:

"Take everything and make a new start."

"It wouldn't be a drop in the bucket," he replied.

"But all is not lost?"

"I fear so."

"You still have 200 acres of pine lands in Michigan?"

"Yes," but I couldn't raise $100 on that property."

"We do not wish to sell it. This jewelry will take us West and we will reach Michigan in time to open a sugar bush on our farm and restore our fortunes."

"Darling!" he cried, as he clasped her in his arms, "you have saved us! Providence must have inspired me to buy that tract of pine!"

A Wise Precaution.

Psyche—No, darling, you must not come to-morrow night. You know it is the fashion now for young ladies to give "spinster dinners" on the eve of marriage, and only female friends are invited. I give mine to-morrow.

Hyperion—Curious custom, and yet a wise precaution. Will you make your own biscuits?

"Oh, of course."

"How lucky! I will have a chance to see whether your guests survive."

A Cure for Hiccough.

"Hiccough!" The sound came from a very fat man in a big fur-lined overcoat, and it issued from the folds of his fat throat with such force that nearly every one in the elevated train looked around. The fat man calmly gazed out of the window and complacently picked his teeth.

"Hiccough!" Again it rang through the car, and again the fat man became the focus of all eyes. This time a little boy across the way snickered out loud, and a little girl on the opposite seat put her hands before her mouth and "tee hee'd" with such enjoyment that the fat man's face grew red with embarrassment.

"Hiccough! hiccough!" Two came in succession here, and the big coat fairly shook. Nearly all the passengers were smiling now, except one stern-faced old lady, who gave him a crushing look over her gold-rimmed spectacles.

Unnoticed by all, a benevolent-looking little man sat a few seats behind the unfortunate fat man. Any one could see that he was just the sort of man who would go several blocks out of his way to accommodate a stranger, or, if asked a question about a street, would glibly roll off the topography of half of New York; or that he knew all signs, and cures, and remedies for all common ailments. It was easy to see, too, that he was thinking of the ways in which hiccough could be cured, and a few minutes later all were conscious that the method he had selected was to scare it out of the victim. The fat man was still hiccoughing as the little man, with a smile on his face, steadily crept up behind him, and, just as he saw the fat man's throat trembling for another explosion he brought both hands down on his shoulders and shouted:

"Shoo!"

At that instant the car checked up suddenly and the little man fell forward until he looked as if he were swimming in the big man's hat. Up sprang the big man with a roar.

"O, I didn't mean that, really," exclaimed the little philanthropist, but, catching sight of the distorted features of his victim, he turned and fled to the door which the brakeman was just opening. But the fat man was very nimble, and he caught his benefactor with a big square-toed boot. "Eighty-six," shouted the brakeman, with lowered head; but his cry was cut short as the little man straddled his back and fell in a heap on the other side, where he picked himself up and fled through the car. The fat man took his seat. The hiccough was cured, but, seated in the last seat of the hindmost car, the little philanthropist did not wear that look of triumph and satisfaction which is presumed to follow the success of a cherished aim.—*New York Times.*

Four Little Jokes by Bob Burdette.

Just as Juliet touched the last chords of whatever she was playing, Romeo stole gently to her side and they both managed on one piano stool no bigger than an opera hat. "That's a sonata," she said timidly, looking at her music. "Ah, yes," said Romeo, who isn't much of a musician, but who is going to play his father-in-law for all he is worth, "Ah, yes; sonata, but so nice."

A Chicago paper wants the people of that city to wear furs and snow shoes, as the Canadians do. Ah, well, that would be a big boom for the lumber trade. But when the gods on high Olympus looked down and saw men and women walking around with rafts on their feet they would call a caucus and send word to Aquarius that it was about time for another flood.

"Charley has an awful long arm," said Bertha, in a musing mood at the breakfast table. "How do you know?" asked her father, in man-like simplicity. "Why," replied Bertha, "my waist belt is a—" And then she caught a glimpse of her mamma's horrified face glaring over the coffee urn, and she thought she would die, sure enough. But she didn't. She only said Charley told her so.

"What does the Indian need?" asks a religious exchange. Soap, brother, soap. Lots of it. Soft soap, laundry soap, kitchen soap, toilet soap. He will doubtless ask you for whisky if you go to him to see what he needs, but don't you give him a drop. Don't give him anything but a bath. That comes cheap, and its about all the government has been giving him for ten years past. It takes a little longer to starve an Indian than it does to shoot him, but it doesn't look so brutal. And it saves powder, too. We must economize in order to pay $25,000 for a chromo of some distinguished American nobody ever heard of.

Made Divorces.

Chicago Herald.

A middle-aged, enterprising looking passenger said he was a lawyer in a Wisconsin town, and the handsome, dashing young man who was flirting with a pretty girl in the front end of the car was his son.

"Is your son a lawyer, too?"

"No, he never comes near the office. Doesn't know anything about law. But he is a great help to me, though."

"Assists you in court, then, or in hunting up witnesses or taking depositions, does he?"

"No, he doesn't. The fact is, he won't work at anything. He is a gentleman of leisure, he is, and does nothing but wear fine clothes and have a good time. Don't know how I could get along without that boy, though."

"Ah!"

"Guess you don't understand me. That boy is always flirting with women, and seems to prefer the married ones. He's a rakish lad, you know, and has been the cause of several divorce suits in the last year. Six of 'em are in my hands, on one side or the other. If the boy does as well this year, I've promised to take him into partnership."

Another Father Wanted.

Evansville Argus.

One of our wholesale merchants has a little daughter who is about six years of age. She is one of those little children who wants to know about everything and can't conceive how a great many things happen. She accosted her mother the other day as follows:

"Mamma, were people always on this earth?"

"No, my child."

"Then how did they get here?"

"Our forefathers were made of dust."

"Did I have four fathers, ma?"

"Yes," replied the mother, not noticing what the little girl meant.

"Well, then, I'd like to get acquainted with the other three, and then maybe I'd get more spending money. This pa I've got now is awful close since New Year's."

The Polka the Rage.

That dreadful polka is just now the Eastern rage. Fortunately, our dancers have not yet sunk to this depth, though if some of the girls who are doing New York and Washington get home before Lent, we shall come to it. The polka is an athletic and gymnastic dance. When the untamed society youth takes the floor, and a partner for just "another turn," one listens for the starting pistol shot and turns involuntarily to see him breast the tape on time. The decollete damsel who has confidingly entrusted herself to this Terpsichorean ruffian is dragged, bumped and shaken until she can hardly stand. The number of men who can take their partners successfully through a crowded ball-room can be counted on one's fingers.

Miscellany.

More Precious than Gold.

Following are the names of those metals valued at over $1,000 an avoirdupois pound, the figures given representing the value per pound:

Vanadium—A white metal discovered in 1830, $10,000.

Rubidium—An alkaline metal, so called from exhibiting dark red lines in the spectrum analysis, $9,070.

Zirconium—A metal obtained from the minerals zircon and hyacinth; in the form of a black powder, $7,200.

Lithium—An alkaline metal; the lightest metal known, $7,000.

Glucinum—A metal in the form of a grayish black powder, $5,400.

Calcium—The metallic base of lime, $4,500.

Strontium—A malleable metal of a yellowish color, $4,200.

Terbium—Obtained from the mineral gadolinite, found in Sweden, $4,080.

Yttrium—Discovered in 1828, is of a grayish black color, and its lustre perfectly metallic, $4,080.

Erbium—The metal found associated with yttrium, $3,400.

Cerium—A metal of high specific gravity, a grayish white color, and a lamellar texture, $1,400.

Didymium—A metal found associated with cerium, $3,200.

Ruthenium—Of a gray color, very hard and brittle, extracted from the ores of platinum, $2,400.

Rhodium—Of a white color and metallic lustre, and extremely hard and brittle. It requires the strongest heat that can be produced by a wind furnace for its fusion, $2,300.

Niobium—Previously named columbium, first discovered in an ore found at New London, Conn., $1,300.

Barium—The metallic base of baryta, $1,800.

Palladium—A metal discovered in 1802, and found in very small grains, of a steel gray color and fibrous structure, $1,400.

Osmium—A brittle, gray colored metal, found with platinum, $1,300.

Iridium—Found native as an alloy with osmium in lead gray scales, and is the heaviest to known substances, $1,000.

How the Crofters Live.

I will describe a typical Idrigil house, which is occupied by the aged daughter and three grown up grandchildren of a fisherman named John Macdonald, who has been dead for many years. The croft upon which it stands slopes southward toward the bay of Uig, and is one of some 350 that belong to Major Frazer, of Kilmuir. It is about 2½ acres in extent, and pays a nominal rental of rather more than £5; a temporary reduction of 25 per cent. off that sum having, however, been conceded during the last two or three years by the proprietor.

Near the centre of the croft is a sea of sticky mud; and amid the slough are two very small stacks of corn, each about nine feet high by six in diameter, carefully thatched and covered with old nets to prevent their being scattered to the winds. Close at hand is the house—a building of rough, unmortared stone, measuring perhaps ten feet by twenty, and very thickly roofed; first with "divits" of turf, then with a close thatch of heather, and finally with fragments of coarse netting, weighted with lumps of gray trap. The door is broken, and will not shut properly; there is no chimney; and the sole window, consisting of a single pane of glass, has an area of not more than three square feet.

From the doorway and from a small hole in the low roof, volumes of peat-smoke escape; and when I entered the hut I could not for several minutes distinguish anything within, owing to the dense fumes that rose from a scanty fire smouldering on the floor in the middle of the gloomy room. At last my eyes became accustomed to the semi-darkness, and I was able to make out the forms of the inmates of the hovel. They sat huddled together on a low black settle warming themselves and greedily watching a battered pot that, suspended from an improvised tripod above the fire, contained a quantity of thin broth; the main ingredients of which were, as I afterwards discovered, potatoes and fish. I shared the poor people's meal of broth and oaten cake, while the smoke curled upward and hung beneath the roof in an impenetrable cloud; the whole making, with the festooned fishing nets and the tattered oilskins on the wall, an interior which Teniers would have delighted to paint, if there had been any jollity in the scene.—*St. James Gazette.*

Presidential Chirography.

Abraham Lincoln wrote a small, careful hand.

The handwriting of Gen. Grant is easy to read.

Andrew Johnson's handwriting was large and labored. His fingers seemed all thumbs.

Zachary Taylor wrote with a blunt pen, with few flourishes and no attempt at ornamentation.

John Tyler, next to Garfield, was the best writer among the Presidents. He wrote a clear, legible, open hand.

Martin Van Buren did not like to write, but when he did sign his name, it was in large, round characters.

Franklin Pierce was the worst writer of all the Presidents. His writing was not pretty, but it could be easily read.

The handwriting of William Henry Harrison was classic. He was a man of varied accomplishments and wide information.

No one would ever be able to counterfeit the handwriting of Rutherford B. Hayes. He never made the same letter the same way twice.

James Buchanan was proud of his handwriting. He prided himself on his punctuation, spelling and the elegance of his style of composition.

James K. Polk made a signature which looks like copper plate. Every line of it is well made, and there is a flourish under it which would do honor to a writing teacher.

Worth Remembering.

There are 2,750 languages.

A square mile contains 640 acres.

A barrel of rice weighs 600 pounds.

The average human life is 31 years.

The first steel pen was made in 1830.

A barrel of flour weighs 196 pounds.

A barrel of pork weighs 200 pounds.

A span in ten and seven-eighths inches.

A hand (horse measure) is four inches.

Watches were first constructed in 1476.

A storm moves thirty-six miles per hour.

The first lucifer match was made in 1829.

The value of a ton of silver is $37,704.84.

A hurricane moves eighty miles per hour.

The first iron steamship was built in 1830.

Modern needles first came into use in 1545.

Coaches were first built in England in 1569.

The first horse railroad was built in 1826-27.

One million dollars gold coin weigh 3,685 pounds avordupois.

Until 1776 cotton spinning was performed by the hand-spinning wheel.

One million dollars silver coin weigh 58,920.9 pounds avoirdupois.

The first complete sewing machine was patented by Elias Howe in 1846.

Glass windows were first introduced into England in the eighth century.

Albert Durer gave the world a prophecy of future wood engraving in 1527.

Measure 209 feet on each side and you will have a square acre within an inch.

WRITING FOR THE PRESS.

A Symposium on a Poem, a Story, and a Letter, by a Young Author—The Editorial View of Them.

In a little volume entitled "Chats," published by Lee & Shepard, Boston, we find the following short chapter, which is so true, and at the same time contains so much criticism and information that persons writing for the press should know, that we reproduce it for the benefit of the BLADE's family of letter writers and readers:

Now, we must confess to a lack of sympathy for girls and boys who are trying to rush into print without due preparation for it. If they have a talent for writing they must strengthen and encourage it by long and patient years of practice, and they must not expect to be able to sell their work for years. However, Our Tender, instead of trusting entirely to her own judgment, called the Poet, the Doctor, and the Lawyer to leave the library, and to come to her room to advise her, and lest they should prove too gentle, she also invited the Editor, who has been a lifelong victim of "poetesses," and who therefore knows thoroughly how to temper mercy with justice.

"Waste basket!" cried he, the moment his eye fell on the sheets of paper. "Your girl rolls her manuscript; she writes on both sides, she doesn't punctuate, she doesn't enclose any stamps for return postage. Waste basket!"

"But you haven't read it yet."

"And don't mean to, and don't need to! Life is brief. Any rising Chatterton that does not know the first rules of a printing office need not apply to me! What is it? A poem, a story and a letter. No metre, no plot, and no news! Don't stare! It doesn't require second sight to tell a man what to expect from such manuscript as that! Oh, yes! I know that Greeley wrote a miserable hand, and Bless could not read his own manuscript, and that four-line letter of Halstead's, which I have at home, will puzzle me to the day of my death, but when those men first began to work, and had plenty of time, they didn't send such stuff as that to a printer, and they never wrote on both sides of their paper, nor rolled their manuscript. A young author has no excuse for negligence of any kind."

"But the poor child has only just begun to write, and she is doing it for her own amusement."

"The woods are full of them," rejoined the Editor. "Those girls who work for their own amusement are a nuisance to all real toilers. There are some dailies and weeklies that take clever short poems and letters, paying for them only in copies of the paper, and giving the writer to understand that the correction which his verses receive before publication, and the privilege of becoming used to print, are worth something."

"What do you mean by becoming used to print?" interrupted the Doctor.

"If you had ever written for the press, you would not ask," replied our Editor. "Even a poem seems different in type and in manuscript, but stories and letters undergo a much greater change. Sentences that were fair and graceful in our own handwriting are crude and absurd when rendered by the printer; paragraphs shrink unaccountably; tautologies come to light; what we thought wit seems impertinence; and often when a man reads things of which he had expected to be proud, he wants to bury himself where he will never be heard of more."

"You editors are dreadful fellows," sighed the Poet.

"Give her story to our legal friend."

"I've been looking at it," said our Lawyer, "while you and the Editor there have been glorifying your respective vocations, and it is pretty bad. It abounds in phrases only tolerable in daily newspapers, when matter is prepared in a great hurry, and which are inelegant at the best. It bristles with italics and quotations, and is sentimental. The letter is worse, for anybody ought to be able to write a tolerable newspaper letter, but it is the legitimate result of the kind of newspaper letter that some editors publish. My friends, the young person whose work we are discussing belongs to the new school of journalistic aspirants. Formerly these persons took pains, and merely showed their doubtful talent by trying to write of things they did not understand; now they take no pains at all, and write about themselves, thinking that because half a dozen well known correspondents say 'I,' they can do so too. I should like to explain to them that the world cares nothing at all for them, or their likes and dislikes, and that what it wants is news."

"And you, Doctor," asked Our Tender, "haven't you a kind word for this poor child?"

"Madam," replied the Doctor, "if I could think of anything supremely harsh, trust me, I would say it. The bite of the writing spider is often fatal, and needs heroic remedies. Unless somebody cures your daughter, she will be spoiled for life. Tell her the truth. She has no talent for writing above commonplace. The bitterness of this will be a good tonic for her mind, enervated by the day-dreaming that preceded the writing of such stuff, and exhausted by doing it badly and awkwardly. Not one kind word shall I say to sweeten the dose."

Poor little girl! But then, did she not deserve it? And did we not all mean well?

Bathing in Japan.

Attached to each hotel is a bath for the use of guests. The bath-tub and heater are combined so that the water, once heated, must furnish the bathing material for the whole house. Arriving at a Japanese hotel foot sore and weary, you ask the landlady:

"How many have used the bath?"

She innocently replies: "Only eight."

You forego the luxury of such a bath. Passing through a town just at nightfall you see a woman boiling her husband—at any rate the man is half immersed in the bath, while the woman is stoking the fire beneath with all her might. The flames pour forth from beneath while this contented Jap is being cooked. Perhaps, though, this was only a preliminary boiling. Such public bathing is now prohibited in the cities, but "far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife" these simple people see no harm in public bathing if it suits their convenience.

A Case in Point.

Some years ago, says Pomeroy's *Democrat*, we had in our employ a man who several times a day ran out of the office to buy a drink of whisky. Every time he went out the cashier was instructed to drop ten cents into a drawer to our credit. At the end of seventeen months the man who had gone out so often had drank himself out of a good situation, and the drawer, when opened, was found to contain $490, which we loaned to a young man at 7 per cent. interest. He used it to purchase a set of tinner's tools. On February 16, 1876, he returned it to us with interest, saying in his letter that he had a wife, two children, and property worth $500. The other fellow is a bummer hunting for food.

A Relic.

The following lines were discovered last week on a slip of paper found in an old-fashioned bottle in the center of an oak tree cut down at Goshen, Conn.:

She was young
And she was fair,
But the Indian
Raised her hair.

It is believed the paper was concealed in the tree about 110 years ago by a woman named Hunter, whose daughter was killed by the Indians.

BRAINY MAIL THROWERS.

Railway Postal Clerks—Their Studies and Work—Civil Service Exemplified.

Glance at the map of our prosperous state and see what a maze the net work of railways seems to be. To all points of the compass in straight and in curved lines they cross and cross again in the most bewildering way. Not a county in Ohio without its railway. Most of them have several, and the points of contact or junction are often three or more in a county. In large cities like Cincinnati or Toledo, many lines concentrate. On the whole, the effect upon the mind is not unlike that of the tracery of the network of veins upon the human body. The physician who traces the human veins, and learns to give them names by which he recognizes them, may have some idea of the course of study of the railway postal clerk, who must learn the names, direction and initial and terminal points of intersection, times of arrival and departure of mail trains from all points of contact with other lines, names and locality of all postoffices supplied by these lines, in not only one, but often in seven or eight states. When it is remembered that the number of postoffices in the great states of the west run from 1400 to 2600 in each; that their names are arbitrary and dis-associated; that they are often changed; that great similarity often exists; the difficulty of committing to memory all these necessary facts will begin to be appreciated. The quickest dispatch and transmission of mail is the point aimed at, and it often occurs that the longest way round is the shortest way home, and a straight line is not always (in time) the shortest distance between two points. Mail for points in the same county has often to be sent by several separate routes. In short, it requires patient, hard, exhaustive study, a highly retentive memory, a constant daily revision, a mind unburdened with other cares, a good healthy body, and an enthusiasm for the business, to make a first class railway postal clerk. At present no postal service in the world is more perfect than is that of the United States. It has been brought up to its present perfection by men thoroughly adapted to the business, of unusual ability and untiring energy. The clerks have had the most careful and painstaking training, and no body of men are more complete masters of their work than are they. Were the new administration to supplant the present clerks with new men, there would be such a disarrangement of the railway mail system as to cause disastrous results, and there would be a general condemnation by business men regardless of political complexion. The only way that new men can be placed in the positions of the present clerks to subserve the public interests, will be by the probationary and test examination system now in vogue. A postal clerk's duties may be illustrated by an extract from the monthly report required to be filed each month by each clerk, of his work on the great fast mail passing through Toledo at 4:55 p. m. Letters for distribution in 21 days in January, 1885—For Wisconsin, 72,000; for Minnesota, 70,000; for Iowa, 1,500; for Idaho, 400; for California, 1,000; for Wyoming, 400; for Indiana, 13,000; for Michigan, 12,000; for Ohio 45,000. Papers—For Indiana, 5,000; for Michigan, 5,600; for Minnesota, 2,400, making a grand total of 203,500 letters and 13,600 papers, which is an average of 9,666 each day, and reckoning ten hours to the day's work, 966 each hour, or 16 each minute. As much of the time is occupied in other labor than the distribution, and some portion of the time entirely unoccupied, it follows that the rate of distribution must be about 20 letters per minute. To do this work a clerk must be perfectly familiar with his work. No time can be lost while throwing mail matter, or looking up information. He must from entire familiarity become automatic in his action, or he will inevitably fail to complete his work in the proper time, and the mail will be delayed. It requires as much hard and persistent study to become a proficient postal clerk, as it does for a man to acquire a profession, and while the former's education is of no value excepting in the postal service, the latter's information may be applied in various ways. The postal clerk is always subject to orders, and is frequently on duty on his feet forty hours continuously. He eats and sleeps irregularly; while on the train is at any moment in danger of losing his life by accident. All appointments of clerks in the railway mail service are probationary for six months. During these six months the new appointee is required to appear for examination every thirty days, and within these six months the novice must be able to throw ninety-five per cent. of mail matter correctly. In this, the fifth division, embracing Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee, there are 191 different railway postal routes, and in addition a large number of stage and horse routes, the offices in Ohio alone being about 2,800. Of all these, the clerk must have a knowledge so perfect as to enable him to instantaneously throw a letter or paper into the receptacle that goes to any given point. A clerk must be able to read the most difficult address at a glance, and in this he is thoroughly drilled. He must be conversant with all the rules, regulations and laws governing the railway mail service. The number of errors in distribution in 1884 in the several divisions aggregated 1,167,223, in a total distribution of 4,519,661,900 pieces, or one error to each 3,872 pieces handled, being at the rate of 299 errors per clerk per annum. Of postal clerks holding permanent appointments there were 4,903 case examinations in 1884. The number of cards handled was 5,028,492, of which number 3,937,290 were thrown correctly, being an average of 78.10 per cent. During the same period there were 3,463 case examinations of probationary postal clerks, and the number of cards handled was 3,472,165, of which 2,339,278 were thrown correctly, being an average of 67.37 per cent. The manner of conducting examinations of postal clerks is: There is a card for each office in the state on which the examination is to be made. The name of the office is written on the card, each card representing a letter. In the state of Ohio for instance, there are over 2,800 postoffices, and an examination of Ohio involves the handling of a corresponding number of cards. The clerk's work in the car, as well as in the examination—a clerk is required to know where each office is located, that he may send the mail by the route that will take it to its destination in the shortest time. In other words a case examination is simply a test by means of which the clerk's ability to distribute accurately the mail for any given state is discovered, through the use of an imaginary mail, consisting of one letter (card) addressed to every office in the state. A small distribution case is furnished with pigeon holes, labeled the same as the cases in the cars. The clerks are then required to distribute the cards into the boxes, after which a careful examination is made, all errors being noted, and a record of the same kept. By this it will be seen that each clerk has his own record, which shows fully and fairly his knowledge of his distribution. There is a constant check upon the incapacity, and a corresponding incentive to efficiency. Another system of detecting errors is: On every package of mail made up the clerk is required to place a label, upon which is his name and the imprint of his post-marking stamp. The clerk who receives the package notes all errors found therein upon the label, and forwards the same to the superintendent of the division. By this double system of checks the railway mail service has become a perfect system and carries out the idea of civil service by test examinations in a perfect manner, and it is a matter for serious consideration whether it can in any way be altered without disastrous results to the business public. If any number of the present trained force were replaced by new men without previous drill, the service would be lamed precisely to that extent, and if they were all removed, and new men put in their places, there would be such a disarrangement and mixture of the mails as would result in a demand from every quarter and from men of all parties for the installment of the old force until new men were drilled into a knowledge of the service that would fit them to hold positions as mail clerks. Under the present system only about 75 per cent. of the probationers pass. While a man has a provisionary appointment he gets at the rate of $800 a year, while a permanent appointee's salary is the average is $995 71. Out of this a clerk must pay his own expenses. These expenses vary. A man running on the New York and Chicago fast mail line will have to pay out about $15 per month, or $180 a year, which leaves him $815 71. On June 30th there were 3,963 clerks in the railway mail service.

Two Drovers Killed.

Intelligence is received of a collision of two stock trains near Conemaugh, on the Pennsylvania road, Sunday, by which two Chicago drovers were killed and a tramp stealing a ride was seriously injured. It appears that the first section of the train stopped at South Fork, on account of the obstruction, and before it could send a flagman back to notify the second section it came thundering along and crashed into the rear of the first section, completely demolishing the caboose. William Keeler and Joseph Erb, two drovers, who were sleeping in the caboose, were both killed instantly, and an unknown tramp who was riding on the rear was badly, but not fatally hurt. The remains of Keeler and Erb were shipped to Chicago in charge of Andrew Bowers.

An Indian just arrived at Victoria, B. C., reports two vessels ashore on Barclay Sound. No particulars yet.

A HOMEOPATHIC CURE.

How Mrs. William Matphin Cured Her Husband of a Dangerous Vagary.

Mr. William Matphin, of the Fifth Ward, is a man who has been possessed of all the minor vices that poor humanity is heir to. He cannot be considered as an absolutely bad man, but he has skirmished, as it were, on the borders of all the varieties of small sins with great success. He is possessed of a delightful wife and one delightful son of seventeen, and should be happy in his home, but somehow he isn't. Mr. Matphin is, and always has been, uneasy when at home, and spends as little of his time there as possible. He affirms that he would not be without a wife, a family, and a house to put them in, on any consideration, for it is a delight to him to have a comfortable home to go to—when every other place is shut up—but he manages on one pretence or another to spend the major part of his time somewhere else. He hurries down to his business immediately after breakfast, it is too hot or too cold, or too wet or too dusty for him to get home to his lunch at noon, and the number of Lodges and other bodies that he belongs to, which take all his time nights, is appalling. The time he spends in the more immediate bosom of his family is comprised, as a rule, between the hours of 12 midnight and 8 a. m.

The awful fact is Mr. Matphin does not belong to any Lodge, nor has he any business which requires his presence after the close of business. He might, did he so elect, stay at home every evening in the week.

How does he spend his time? Alas, in a city like Toledo there are rooms where the fascinating but oft expensive game of poker is played; there are variety theaters where godless men assemble to taste of doubtful pleasures; there are beer saloons where pool is played, and back rooms where rounce and bulldoze and other wicked games are affected. These places are the Lodges at which Mr. Matphin is supposed to be in attendance.

Did Mrs. Matphin believe these stories? Indeed she did not. Mrs. Matphin is a woman of great discrimination, and when her liege lord would return at 12 at night, with a breath like the crater of Mount Vesuvius, and an odor of tobacco that would drive a yellow dog out of a tan-yard, and mutter something about a special meeting of the Lodge, she knew better. She knew many Masons and Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias and Legions of all sorts, and she knew them to be respectable citizens, who do not go about breathing blast furnaces, and consequently she knew that Mr. Matphin was telling her systematic lies. Oh, ye wandering husbands, don't flatter yourselves that your patient wives are deceived by your shallow lies! They may endure uncomplainingly, but they know all about it. Sin, like a sore finger, cannot be concealed. It is always visible. Men's noses do not grow red in Masonic lodges, nor are tobacco saturated clothes there obtained.

Last Monday evening, Mr. Matphin hurried on his overcoat and remarked to Mrs. M. that there was to be a Council Meeting that evening, at which a measure was coming up in which he had an interest, namely an ordinance permitting speeding horses on Jefferson street, and he felt it his duty to help kill it.

"What interest have you in that, William?" she asked. "We don't live within miles of Jefferson street."

"No, but women don't understand these things. If the jockeys are permitted to race on Jefferson street, they will monopolize all the streets, and the outrage must be nipped in the bud. To kill an evil you must tackle it while it is yet young."

And with this sentiment he hurried out of the house before further conversation could be had.

"I wish," murmured Mrs. Matphin, "that I had acted upon that principle. I should have nipped your lying to me in the bud many years ago."

Then she picked up the BLADE and turned to the amusement advertisements, and noticed that a company composed exclusively of "ladies" were to appear in "An Adamless Eden" at the Opera-house that evening.

Mrs. Matphin is a woman of great resolution. She quickly donned her hat and wraps, and hailing a street car, was on her way down town immediately behind her husband. She hied her to the hotel where the company of "ladies" were domiciled, and disappeared for a few minutes, and then emerging at about eight, took a position on the opposite side of the street from the entrance to the Temple of Thespis.

She did not wait long, for her purpose was soon accomplished. Mr. Matphin was not at the council chamber that evening. He entered the theater precisely five minutes to eight with a half dozen other men of like tastes, who do not stay at home evenings.

Then Mrs. Matphin smiled serenely and went home.

* * * * * * *

It was the evening of Tuesday. Mr. Matphin had swallowed his supper in haste, and had rushed to the hall and was donning his overcoat preparatory to going into the city.

"You need not expect me very early this evening, dear, as I have to attend a meeting of the Lodge to-night," said Mr. Matphin.

"You may as well shed that overcoat, William," said Mrs. Matphin. "for you need not go to the Lodge to-night, at all. I have brought your Lodge to the house. The Lodge will meet here."

"What do you mean?" inquired Mr. Matphin, nervously, for he saw a curious look in the lady's eye.

"Take off your overcoat, and come to the parlor, dear," smiled Mrs. M., "and you will see."

Mr. Matphin obeyed, meekly. Mrs. Matphin ushered him into the parlor. He was astounded. She had hung a curtain across one end of the room from which a string arrangement ran to the piano. Jimmie, the son, a bright lad of 17, was seated beside him was a chair on which Mr. Matphin was invited to seat himself, and Mrs. Matphin seated herself at the piano, and played a pleasing air and then jerked the string and the curtain parted, disclosing what?

The ugliest of the very ugly aggregation of ancient Black Crookers who formed the "Adamless Eden" aggregation of monstrosities. There she stood, dressed, or rather undressed, in tights, painted in the regular orthodox fashion, ghastly powder all over her frightfully ugly face, a dab of red on each cheek, dyed eye-lashes, and the regular shadows under the eyes. Her skinny arms contrasted terribly with her padded legs, her awful wig was painfully horrible, and her lack-lustre eyes—well she was very close to the audience and was as frightful a vision as human eyes had ever rested upon.

"Mademoiselle Celeste, of the 'Adamless Eden' combination," remarked Mrs. Matphin cheerfully to her husband, striking up a lively air on the piano. "Mademoiselle, you will begin!"

Then the Queen of Hideosities executed a sort of cow caper and advanced to the front, and commenced to warble a so-called song, accompanied by some sort of a movement much affected by such dames upon the variety stage, when Mr. Matphin shrieked, "what in the name of all that's horrible have you got here?"

"The Lodge you attend regularly, or rather a member of the city council. You see, darling, I am lonely without thee, and as you seemed determined to go where these woodbines twineth, it occurred to me that I would bring the woodbines hither. So last night, after you left for the Council Chamber, I went to the hotel where the company was boarding and I engaged Mademoiselle Celeste (her right name is M'Guffey, Bridget,) to stop with us till the walking is better. She gladly acceded, accepting for her services, her board, which is all she gets from the company, anyhow, and a ticket to New York when we tire of her. Go on, Mademoiselle!"

And Mrs. Matphin struck up a dance which Mademoiselle Celeste immediately essayed.

"Stop it! Stop it!" roared Mr. Matphin. "Aren't you ashamed to bring such a spectacle into your house, before the very eyes of your child?"

"My dear, I didn't know that there was anything wrong about it. You saw such a performance last night, and whatever is fit for you, is fit for your boy, or ought to be. I am trying to make your home happy, darling, and as you want Mademoiselles, with their no-skirts, and paint, and blonde wigs, and all that, I thought I would have them here. As I don't want Mahomet to go to the mountain, I thought it best to bring the mountain to Mahomet. Mademoiselle, please favor us with, 'Oh, I'm a daisy!'"

"How long do you propose to keep this female monstrosity in the house?" he demanded of his smiling wife.

"Perpetually, or rather when she has gone through her programme, and when another similar company comes this way I shall let this especial Mademoiselle out and engage a new one. As this is the sort of thing you want, I shall, as a dutiful wife, see that you have it. We shall enjoy a variety show in this parlor every evening till further notice."

Mr. Matphin rose with a strange and lurid fire blazing from his eyes. Advancing promptly to the improvised stage, he tore down the curtain with one hand and with the other grasped Mademoiselle by the ear and led her forth.

"Do you desire to go to New York!" he demanded sternly.

"Faith and it's mesilf that's very well shootid here, be gorra!" replied this native of sunny France.

"If there is a place farther from Toledo than New York I will gladly purchase a ticket for you thither. The fare to New York is just $18.75. Here is the money, with $4 for a sleeper and meals on the road. Get on your clothes, if you have any, and skip. The train leaves in two hours. There is a hot stove in the Island House and the time intervening you can spend there. Only get out of this house as soon as possible. I wish to sleep to-night, and I don't want night-mares."

It is unnecessary to continue this tale farther. Mademoiselle Celeste was cleared out of the house, Mr. Matphin confessed his fault, and was forgiven, and the Matphin house was in a state of peace that was delightful. Mr. Matphin swore solemnly that henceforth and forever he would eschew Lodges and Council meetings and that his evenings should be spent in the bosom of his family.

He will keep his promise, probably, two weeks. However, Mrs. Matphin may be relied upon to find a way to keep him in the straight path when the effect of this lesson has worn off.

—This is the best season in which to purify the blood, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best blood purifier. 100 Doses One Dollar.

THE LOYAL LEGION.

A Democratic View of the Above-Named Organization.

New York World Washington Letter.

When the order of Cincinnati was established at the close of the revolutionary war there was a great outcry made against it throughout the country. That society was made up strictly of officers who had served in the cause of freedom. Each officer had the right to designate one of his sons or descendents to succeed him in the order at his death. The criticism of the time was that the order had a tendency to establish in this country an aristocracy; that in all countries where aristocracies exist their claims of superiority are based upon deeds of valor or descent from great warriors. Notwithstanding the great excitement the formation of this society occasioned in the early history of this country, the founding of a similar order since the last war has attracted almost no attention, and has nowhere provoked any criticism.

The order of the Loyal Legion is to-day a most compact and powerful social organization. It is made up entirely of officers who fought in the late rebellion upon the Union side. It is essentially an aristocratic organization, because no one is admitted to it who did not hold a commission in the service. More than that, his service must be of a character which will bear careful examination. An applicant for admission to the Loyal Legion must submit with it an official transcript of his record, accompanied by an honorable discharge from the service. This record is examined by a special committee, and unless the applicant is of the kind and character agreeable to the gentlemen already members, the application is rejected. The Loyal Legion differs completely from the organization known as the Grand Army of the Republic. The latter is democratic, and takes in every one who ever served in the Union cause.

The badge of the Loyal Legion is a small, compact red, white and blue rosette, made in the shape of a small round button. It is worn in the left lapel of the coat. It is worn with the same pride that the Chevaliers of the Legion of Honor sport the red ribbon in their button holes. Nearly all of the members wear these rosettes, so that you see them wherever you go, in business, politics or society. The men comprising this association are more closely allied than in any other political organization I know anything about. It has a marked influence upon legislation.

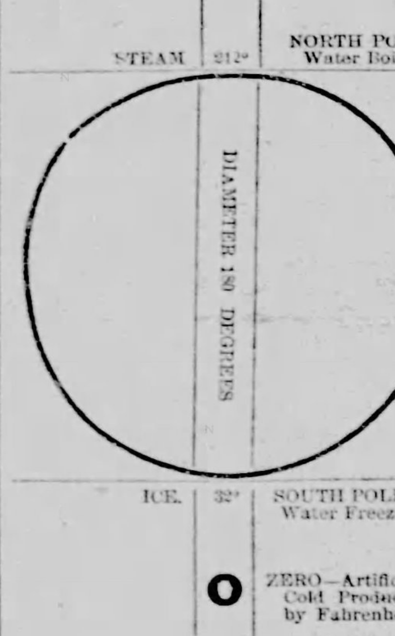
It is one of the natural outgrowths of Washington life. It was here that it was originally organized and it has for its head a United States senator. The constant tendency of life here is to develop class and family distinctions. There is hardly any public man of any importance who has not used the public service for the purpose of advancing the interest of some member of his family or for the care of his relatives. About the senate there are at least fifteen or twenty senators' son occupying sinecure positions. The recent flurry at Castle Stewart brought out the fact that even so great a reformer as Judge Holman had his son, Paul Holman, in a sinecure position in the Agricultural department, where he received $800 a year for doing nothing.

WHAT IS ZERO?

A Scientific and Practical Explanation of the Most Interesting Point of the Thermometer.

Ohio State Journal.

On Wednesday we published an article on "What is Zero?" It gave a scientific explanation of recent experience, and led a prominent citizen to inquire into the matter, who prepared the following illustration and furnishes an additional explanation:



Fahrenheit was a mathematician and knew that a circle was divided into 360 degrees. He found that steam and ice were the most natural fixed points in temperature at opposite poles. He therefore naturally divided the distance on his glass tube between ice and steam into the number of degrees in the diameter of a circle, which is 180. He wanted an instrument which would be cheaply made and which would measure above steam and below ice, so far as would be commonly used in everyday life. He found that artificial cold could be produced which would cause the mercury to fall just 32 of the spaces he had marked off on his glass between ice and steam, and he there, whether sensibly or not, placed his zero, or point from which he would count. Hence ice or freezing is 32° above, and steam or boiling water is the diameter of his circle or 180° above ice, or 212° above zero.

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE,

For Overworked Females.

Dr J. P. COWAN, Ashland, O., says: "It proves satisfactory as a nerve tonic; also in dyspeptic conditions of the stomach, with general debility, such as we find in overworked females, with nervous headache and its accompaniments."

A Sensible Girl.

Skating parties are quite fashionable up town. Many of the young people prefer them to theaters or balls. One young lady says she likes them better than balls because she can go without endangering her life by making such a radical change in her clothing. "Do you know?" (and she laughed), "ordinarily I wear warm, soft underwear, but when I go to a ball or to the opera I have to take them all off and wear my neck and arms perfectly bare. Of course, I take cold and feel mean for two or three days after, even if I dont' get a severe attack of influenza. I had much rather put on my perfect fitting jersey, which, by the way, shows my figure to better advantage, and go to the skating rink and skate to good music, with a nice party, of course, our own set, you know. I wouldn't go with any other."—*New York Graphic.*

Royal B. Young, of Salt Lake City, Utah, whose examination before a commissioner for polygamy made a great stir a short time back, has been again arrested on an indictment for polygamy and unlawful cohabitation. His bail was fixed at $3,500. Anges McMurrin, his presumed latest plural wife, was also arrested on an indictment for perjury in swearing that their marriage was in 1881 instead of 1883, the object being to plead the statute of limitation. Her bail was fixed also at $3,500.

Recent Literature.

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH OUR DAUGHTERS? By Mary A. Livermore. Lee & Shepard, Boston.

The writer of this book is so familiar to the public through her work upon the platform that she needs no introduction in speaking of the present volume. It is made up of a series of lectures, changed somewhat to make it adapted to publishing in this form, but full from beginning to end of sound good sense and logical reasoning. It is what every mother should read and weigh carefully, and she will be better prepared to bring up her daughters properly.

DOCTOR GRATTAN. By Dr. Hammond, author of "Lal," etc. D. Appleton & Co., New York. Price, $1.50.

The book is written in a style clear, vigorous and direct. The language is free from technicalities which from the nature of the case might have been looked for. Evidently the author aims to secure readers, and he does not hesitate to employ legitimate means to that end. He shows such care as respect for his readers requires, and only that. He is cramped by no pettiness or squeamishness. He succeeds as well in the telling of his story as in the contrivance of its plot.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS. A Manual of Suggestions for Beginners in Literature. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

This most excellent work has reached its third edition and still maintains its popularity. This is not strange, for it tells new beginners in literature just what they want to know, and saves them any amount of perplexity. The mystery of the copyright is fully explained, the different styles of printing are illustrated, the mysteries of advertising elucidated, and the different ways of publishing a book described. It is a most excellent work.

THE HOUSE ON THE MARSH. A Romance. D. Appleton & Co., New York. Price 25 cents.

A vivid story told in a most fascinating manner. It is somewhat upon the sensational order, but the plot is artistically developed, and the reader is held from beginning to end.

THE SHADOW OF JOHN WALLACE. A Novel. By L. Clarkson. White, Stokes & Allen, New York.

This is a book which has attracted considerable attention and been sharply criticised, but it is one of the best works of fiction given to the public recently, notwithstanding that something of dissatisfaction remains with the reader at its ending. The plot is a curious one and out of the usual order. The shadow which follows John Wallace is one that haunts those who follow the narrative, and yet the perusal of the book gives great pleasure.

ELEMENTS OF ENGLISH SPEECH. By Isaac Bassett Choate. D. Appleton & Company, New York.

The object of this little work which the author says is not a text book, nor intended to supplement text books, is to encourage readers to study our own language critically in its forms and elements. It shows how many of its peculiarities have grown, and leads to the full understanding of the freshness, life and vigor of a still growing idiom. It is evidently the result of careful thought and earnest study, and whoever reads it will find both interest and profit in its pages.

THE PROHIBITIONIST'S TEXT-BOOK. Comprising Arguments, Appeals and Statistics, Showing the Iniquity of the License System, and the Right and Duty of Prohibition. National Temperance Society and Publication House, 58 Reade St., New York.

This is a collection of arguments for Prohibition gathered from the best writers and speakers upon the subject. Every point of importance has been briefly discussed but quite thoroughly, and whoever wants to strengthen his faith and be ready to meet his opponents well armed will do well to get this pamphlet for that purpose.

CHATS. "Now Talked of This and Then of That." By G. Hamlen. Lee & Shepard, Boston.

This exquisite little book composed of talks, sensible and kind, about every day matters which seem trifling and yet go so far to make up the sum of human happiness, cannot fail to do a world of good, through its tender, graceful way of appealing to the best that is within the human heart. The style is pleasant and easy and yet graceful, and while it purports to be entirely for the benefit of youth, older people may find pleasure and profit in its pages.

DANGEROUS GROUND; or the Rival Detectives. By Lawrence L. Lynch (of the Secret Service.) Author of "Madeline Payne," etc. Henry A. Sumner & Co., Chicago.

This volume belongs to the "Detective Series" issued by the above publishing house and seems to be of the same character. Doubtless those who are interested in these sensational stories, who like following the tracing out of crime through all the difficulties with, which it is accompanied, will find the present a most absorbing narrative.

STOPS, or HOW TO PUNCTUATE. A Practical Handbook for Writers and Students George H. Buchanan & Company, Philadelphia. Price 35 cents.

An excellent book on punctuation. Its distinguishing feature is the clearness with which the various rules are explained and illustrated. The author certainly inclines to what is termed "high pointing," but will be found, in most instances, to accord with the best American authorities.

HANDBOOK OF BLUNDERS. Designed to Prevent 1,000 Common Blunders in Writing and Speaking. By Harlan H. Ballard, A. M. Lee & Shepard, Boston.

This little book includes most of the common inaccuracies and inelegancies of every-day life, many of them being such as people fall readily into and yet jar upon the ear of the really refined. It will be found exceedingly useful to those who desire to speak correctly.

1. LE MERE DE LA MARQUISE. Par Edmond About. William R. Jenkins. Price 25 cents

2. LE SIEGE DE BERLIN, ET D'ANTEES CONTES. Par Alphonse Daudet. Price 25 cents.

These belong to the French series projected by William R. Jenkins, of New York, which promises much. The first is an amusing *nouvelle* by Edmond About, and this is followed by six of Alphonse Daudet's short stories. These cannot fail to be welcome to the increasing class who want good, clean French literature to read.

SONG GREETING. FOR HIGH SCHOOLS. By L. O. Emerson. Oliver Ditson & Co., New York. Price 60 cents, or $6 per dozen.

Song Greeting has 160 octavo pages, of which the first 25 pages are filled with smooth, musical and useful solfeggios for voice culture, and the rest with 82 fine four-part songs. The four-part arrangement will be found very convenient, as schools, according to ability, or taste, may sing one, two, three or four parts, while the accompaniment will play all parts, and thus supply any part of the harmony that may be lacking in the voices. Of course, this high school book is intended for not only high school, but seminaries, academies, etc.

NO SECT IN HEAVEN. By Mrs. E. H. J. Cleveland. George H. Buchanan & Co., Philadelphia.

This little poem cannot fail to please and amuse the reader by its many bright, but kindly hits at the outward forms and ceremonies which distinguish the various religious sects. It is beautifully printed from new type of good size, on handsome laid paper, and with a folded cover of bond paper printed in two colors.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.

The March number is full of very good stories and other attractions. A new story by Miss Rollston, called "Janie," opens in this number; "Under Gray Skies" progresses toward an interesting climax, and Helen Mather's "Dreeing of the Weird" reaches a satisfactory finale. "No Motive," a strong story, by M. R. Housekeeper, is one of the unsuccessful MSS. entered for the prize competition. The latest enterprise of Messrs. J. H. Haulenbeek & Co., the publishers, is the award of books to every person who secures a new subscriber, one book for every subscriber secured. These books are all catalogued, and a free choice is allowed. J. Haulenbeek & Co., 1,006 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. $2 per annum.

VICK'S ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY.

The colored frontispiece for February is a beautiful representation of the Gladiolus. The reading matter is up to the usual standard of excellence. It is hard to see how those who love flowers can get along without this magazine. James Vick, Rochester, N. Y. $1.25 per annum.

BABYHOOD.

This little magazine is doing good work in its own field. The February number is full of excellent hints to mothers.

L. Prang & Co., Boston, send two or three specimens of valentines gotten out by them, and the designs are very beautiful, as are all things which come from this well-known house.

At the World's fair, Thursday, the cotton centennial was celebrated with impressive ceremonies. Director General Burke, Henry Watterson and others delivered addresses.

Eat Slow.

Clean your mouth afterwards with SOZODONT, and your teeth will be in condition to work for years. Thousands of dyspeptics bolt their food because they cannot masticate properly. Chew fine, eat slow, and use SOZODONT.

BROADWAY BOARDERS.

A Euchre Party is Continued Into the Next Day—A Party Ought to Conclude the Same Day It Begins.

After a week everything has again settled down to the usual routine among the boarders. The occasion of the disturbance last week was the introduction to our house by Mrs. Pillsbury of her niece. It was the most natural thing in the world. Her brother's accomplished daughter had come to make her aunt a visit, and she being one of our number, we enjoyed the visit also. A boarding house is good in that respect. What is put upon the table is for the general good of all. If one gets the toothache or the chills, it isn't expected that all the boarders will join in the entertainment such as it is, but a visitor can not be entirely monopolized.

It may be said that Mrs. Pillsbury was very liberal in the distribution of the joys of her niece's visit. A euchre party was given by that lady and among the invited guests were Messrs. Amin and Epsilon. The cards were enjoyed very much during a very long time. It was thought afterwards by those gentlemen that they had perhaps remained longer than was entirely polite, but they congratulated themselves that no notice had been taken of this by Mrs. Pilsbury Therein they were mistaken. When the morning came there had been such a very few hours between the euchre and the breakfast, that sleep was in greater demand than victuals. There was something said by Mrs. Pillsbury about having a party in one day, which was simply a dig at the gentlemen for staying so late. They appeared very indifferent to her meaning, but felt it all the same. One reason that they have not repeated the error is that no opportunity has been presented. They flattered themselves that the niece had been favorably impressed by them, notwithstanding their little mistake. The lapse of one day, however, found her taking her departure. Whether she would have remained longer if the party had never taken place is the query.

Mr. Amin, who was especially moved by her charms, thinks that she would, and is inclined to throw the blame upon Mr. Epsilon for not having moved an earlier adjournment. The latter gentleman has seen so many bright prospects blasted that he tries to console himself and Mrs. Amin by showing the utter hopelessness of the case, anyhow, whether there had been a party or not, or whether they had gone home the same day or not. In this Mr. Barnabus came to his rescue, and in his vehemence, said: "What hope could there have been for you? The lady had education. She had traveled. This was not her first trip away from home. She had good judgment. Her aunt knows you perfectly. She would have believed her aunt. Even if the aunt's report had been good, don't you suppose the lady had eyes to read you? In a case of this kind a mistake of judgment on the part of the lady would effect her whole life. Would she then rush into certain destruction? Not much, dear Maud. Reform if you expect to be estemed by the ladies. Quit drinking and smoking. Don't fight or swear. Pay your debts and give your mind to cultivation. After pursuing this course three weeks if you don't succeed, try again. The way is clear for any number of trials. There is no court of final resort for such cases. The jury may decide against you at first, but you can get some additional facts to strengthen your case next time. After a while you will get a jury to decide with you. Don't be disheartened by any number of defeats. This may serve as a lesson to you, not to stay too late, but don't attribute your failure to that." While these few remarks did not explain very clearly who was to blame for not leaving Mrs. Pillsbury's party earlier, they contained some very wholesome advice. While there may have been a disposition on the part of that lady to reprove us, we are all inclined to think it came from the goodness of her heart. We are perfectly willing to forgive her, which we will testify by attending another party if she wants us to. There is much nonsense extant about what is a proper hour to end the visit. As long as one is there it is just as well to remain till next day as to go every day. The one plan adds the two visits together, without a dash between, while the other puts a day into the interval as a sort of breathing spell. This argument is on the ground that a visit every day is permissable, but if objection is made to that, why then, of course, it isn't a good one.

LEE WELLYN.

"DO I DO THAT?"

A Sermon on Manners for Young Ladies and Gentlemen.

Two young girls were once visiting at a friend's house at the same time with an older lady. Both were good, pretty and well educated. At the end of two days one of them came into the lady's room looking very sad. She would not tell what troubled her for some time. At last she said: "Why is it that when I want to make other people happy just as much as Lucile does, and to have them like me, she succeeds, and I do not? What is the use of my having been first scholar? I would rather have every body want me round as they do Lucile. It always so wherever I go." The lady is knew what the girl meant, and believed her brave enough to hear the truth; so she threw herself into a chair, pushed one foot way out, so as to show part of the stocking above the boot, and flung an arm over the back of the chair, making one shoulder several inches higher than the other, while the waist of her dress looked wrinkled and twisted. Then she took four or five long strides across the room, slammed the half-open door with her back, and swinging her shoulders, came back. The girl's face flushed. "Do I do that?" she asked. The lady took up a roll that lay on the table with her whole hand, and, holding it so that the end came out through the circle made by her thumb and forefinger, bit into the middle of the bread. "First scholars and poor scholars must be ladies!" she said; and then she cried from pity, and the girl from shame. In a few days they separated. Two months later came a note from the young girl, saying: "The best thanks I can give you is to tell you that Robert told me he thought he had done me an injustice, for that I was so ladylike. 'As ladylike as Lucile?' I asked. 'Not quite as graceful,' he answered; and I knew what he meant; but I never should have, if you had not given me such a bitter lesson."

So manners are something to be studied; but are not all to be of the same pattern, else they will be borrowed. Affected girls, and swaggering and "dude" boys, always borrow, and are always laughed at. Remember, first, that no amount of "pull backs," "bangs," small waists, "cutaways," one or two buttoned coats, stiff or "smashed in" hats will make grace, which depends on motion and outline.

Husbands and Wives.

There is something in Goethe's ideas of elective affinities among husbands and wives, after all, and it is quite possible that domestic miseries and broils will never cease, till a more enlightened philosophy takes Cupid on its knee and spanks the urchin into something like common sense notions of life in general. If there is anything in modern society more than to see a refined, delicately sensitive, intellectual woman married to a coarse, illiterate man, it is the sight of a finely organized, studious man married to a coarse or merely wooden woman of the world.

The case of Dr. Rudolph Tauskey, the insanity expert, who shot his wife and afterward himself in New York on Sunday, is the latest serious outbreak of a very general misery. He was 43 and his wife 30 years old. They were only married a year ago. All things indicate that the doctor was fond of his wife. But the report says simply that he was studious and she was fond of society. He was ready to give himself, his profession and his love to make her a home. But she hungered for society, that is, she did not give her life to him; and she got a bullet in her head instead of society and he another bullet in his studious brain.

It is a bitter cure for such a sickness. But if the tens of thousands of women in this city and elsewhere who are taking the home comforts that the life and earnings of their husbands provide for them as matters of course, without giving a corresponding thought and care for their husband's tastes and needs, should hear of the Tauskey medicine and be cured by proxy; the Sunday shooting may be of greater service than many sermons. It is not an example to be followed. But until the modern women, in increasing numbers, take up the old ideas of loyal helpfulness in their homes, such accidents as the Tauskey tragedy will be liable to occur again and again.—*Philadelphia Times.*

Narragansett bay is frozen over from Newport to Providence.

The Camp Fire.

CHAT AROUND THE FIRE.

Here they come! With rails and pine-knots, with brush and buffalo chips, with anything and everything that will make the roaring CAMP FIRE burn still brighter, and throw its ruddy rays afar over the bronzed faces and gray heads of the glorious boys who fought the battle for Union and Freedom. The editor is saving up the letters—but the store of them gets larger and larger. Every man who wishes to talk shall be allowed a chance if he can possibly arrange it—but some of them will have to wait a little.

J. E. Bishop, Co. I., 76th Illinois, Plainfield, Ill.:

The comrades, as well as some of the war histories, get the commanders of the Blakely expedition mixed. Some of the histories give it as an expedition consisting of colored troops only. The forces that marched from Barrancas to Ft. Blakely consisted of a detachment of the 13th A. C. of two divisions of white infantry, the 2d and 4th, commanded respectively by Gens. Andrews and Veatch; a division of colored infantry, commanded by Gen. Hawkins; and a division of 5,000 cavalry, commanded by Gen. Lucas. The whole force was in command of Gen. Steele. It was one of the columns organized for the capture of Mobile, the other being the rest of the 13th corps, under Gen. Granger, and A. J. Smith's corps which had been concentrating at Ft. Morgan, while ours, Steele's army, was organizing at Barrancas.

V. F. Biddleman, Co. B, 48th (835) Ohio, Thornburg, Ia., sends a correction regarding the Fort Blakely fight. He says: "Our regiment was in the 4th brigade, 2d division, 13th army corps. The third brigade was commanded by Col. Fred. More, of the 83d Ohio, and was composed of the following regiments, viz.: 83d and 114th Ohio, 37th Illinois, 20th and 34th Iowa. The 2d division, commanded by commanded by Gen. Andrews; the 13th corps by Gen. Gordon Granger."

We are sorry to say we can't make room for the song sent. It is too long.

Regarding Comrade King's remark that Adamson is mistaken as to the regiments composing the 2d brigade in the charge on Fort Wayne, S. D. Smith, Co. C, 7th New Hampshire, Canaan, N. H., writes: I was one of the many that went into that slaughter and that did not come out until I was brought out by the rebels and exchanged in the harbor, about one week after the charge, minus my left leg, which was amputated almost at the hip joint. I wish to say that Comrade Adamson was right, for the 7th New Hampshire and the 100th New York regiments were in the 2d brigade. Col. H. S. Putnam was colonel of the 7th New Hampshire, and commanded the 2d brigade in the charge. He was killed on the top of the fort that night, and a braver soldier never drew a sabre.

I was a member of Co. C, 7th New Hampshire volunteers, and I know that our regiment was on the right of the 2d brigade, and led the brigade as we marched up the beach, and I know that the 100th New York was the next regiment to us in our rear. I presume my comrades have heard how the rebels buried Col. Shaw, of the 54th Massachusetts colored regiment. He was killed. I lay in the ditch at the foot of the fort, where I fell, all of the next day, with my thigh all stove up with a grape shot, and the dead and wounded piled three or four deep in places in that ditch, lying all night across a dead comrade, and not able to get off of him without getting on to others that were killed or wounded. That was a tough place, but my ears were open to hear what I could that the rebels said, and as a squad of them that had been out burying our dead came, I heard one of them tell an officer that they had dug a hole and put Col. Shaw in and thrown four negroes on top of him and buried them up. After I was exchanged I told of it, and soon it came out in the papers. I have very good reason to think that the people North never would have known about it if I had not happened to have heard them boasting over the great thing (to them) they had done.

R. E. Pond, Co. A, 149th Penn., Wellsboro, Kan., wishes some of his regiment to come up and recount the fun they had mixing Virginia mud, chasing Lee.

J. W. Faulkner, Co. H, 97th Indiana, Stillwater, Ky., speaking of the election of Cleveland, says: "If I could forget the fall of Fort Sumter, and forget that the rebellion made a cripple of me for life, perhaps I would not be quite so strenuous; but just so long as those things are fresh to my memory, just so long I will cry down with the traitors. But, comrades, be as calm as you can, and rally around the CAMP FIRE; gather in all the recruits you can for the change in 1888, and do all you can to circulate the good old loyal BLADE."

A comrade at Butte City, Mont., writes: "I would be in favor of disqualifying every one who ever took up arms against the United States from voting or holding office. I also favor compelling England and other foreign countries sending their trash over here, to work for lower wages than Americans. I believe in supporting labor in the United States. I know men in this town who think America is not good enough for a child of theirs to be born in, while all they possess has been made in the United States, and off the poor hard-working miner and prospector. Now they want to monopolize everything, far and near, and have never even taken out their citizenship papers in the United States."

Robert P. Black, Co. E, 103d Pa., Parker's Landing, Pa., who was at Andersonville, gives from his diary the prices of eatables at the rebel sutler's tent on the north side: Butter, $5 per lb.; meat varied, generally 25c. per oz.; eggs, $8 per doz.; pepper, 10 to 13 grains for a cent; sorghum molasses, $1 a pint; wheat flour, $70 a sack, or $1.50 per pint; tobacco, a chew for a button "with an eagle on it;" buttons, (U. S.), generally $1, each in Confederate money. The other prices were in greenbacks. The above is a sample of my experience under the last Democratic rule I ever saw, and it was the simon pure and unadulterated at that, too. I wonder if the coming Democratic rule will be a continuation of where the last left off; if so, I want to Canada or somewhere else out of it.

E. J. Pease, Co. A, 76th Pa., East Liverpool, O., writes on both sides of his paper—and so we can't use his letter.

"A Soldier's Sister," Springdale, Tex., says: "Why do we never see anything from the 59th Ohio regiment who belonged to the 15th army corps? With pride I recall the brilliant achievements which immortalize you and enrich the pages of our national history."

J. White, Co. A, 54th Ohio, Bloomington, Ohio, sends an account of Sheridan's ride, from an eye-witness, his brother, who was an officer in the 91st Ohio, and was stationed in the road with his company to check the rush of stragglers to the rear. He saw "Little Phil" when he first reached the army, being some 200 yards in advance of his body guard, his horse covered with foam, his eyes flashing fire. He was greeted with the news, "We're whipped, General, we're whipped!" He swore it was a lie (alas for the inevitable oath which always spoils "the sweetest and the best";) that only the cowards were whipped, and dashing into the fray, his voice could be heard along the lines, giving command and bringing order out of confusion. He soon succeeded in snatching victory from the jaws of defeat. He "waked up Early" and soon put the rebel hordes to flight.

W. C. Linkins, Co. G, 11th Iowa, New London, Iowa, wants to ask his comrades if they remember the time he and a comrade, on the Meridian march, were sent out after a sheep?

Geo. Banner, Co. A, 19th Indiana, Perkinsville, Ind., writes a pleasant letter, defending his course in voting for Cleveland. He argues that "the Republican party went squarely back on the equalization of bounties bill," and says: "I think a change in the administration will be for our benefit, if not, we will about face." We want to hear his opinion after four years of ex-rebel and Northern Copperhead administration.

J. M. Dixon, Co. K, 56th Illinois, Lismore, La.: The most honorable Democrats of the South approve all the methods of bulldozing and intimidation. As a proof of this, I will relate a conversation with one of my neighbors, a man that I had every confidence in as a generous, fair and honorable man. I was trying to explain to him the unfairness of the Democrats manipulating the colored vote and counting against us the 43 electoral votes allowed for their representation. His only answer was, "We'll manipulate them all the same." From that time I have resolved not to talk politics.

"Corporal, Co. A, 9th Minnesota:

"When I see Guntown mentioned, I lay down the paper and walk the floor a few minutes, using 'cuss' words, and then sit down and swear. A few months ago one of Forrest's followers spoke his piece, and seems to take great credit upon himself for our defeat. I am willing to acknowledge that we were badly whipped at Guntown But it was not Forrest nor his army that whipped us. It was a drunken, incompetent, (and I believe I might add, traitor), named Sturgis, who whipped us. I would like to hear through the camp fire from every man now living who was with Sturgis at Guntown."

W. B. T., Co. K, 79th Illinois, Rosendale, Mo., is proud of the record of his regiment, which was at Franklin, Nashville and other fights, and was never known to run. He says Sergt. Frank Hecox planted the Union flag on the rebel works at Kenesaw, "but the rebels were a little hard to drive out." He wishes to hear from old comrades of the 79th and 27th Illinois.

J. M. Tarpening, Co. D., 12th Iowa, South Bend, Neb., has been reading Grant's account of the battle of Shiloh. He was captured then and had to march to Corinth with a bullet hole through his leg. He spent most of his prison life at Macon.

W. H. Kirk, Co. F, 14th Ohio, East Saginaw, Mich., wants his old comrades to show up around the CAMP FIRE.

John G. Keith, Co. C, 21st Missouri, and Co. H, 39th Missouri, Butte City, Montana, remembers distinctly his war days, but begins to think that it was all to no purpose, now that the Confederacy is in power at Washington. He says at a jollification in his town a transparency bore the inscription, "Uncle Sam is dead, and no more pensions to Union soldiers now."

Austin A. Ross, Co. C, 142d New York, thinks that "One of Gen. Price's Men" wrote a very interesting letter. He says: "It has been a source of pleasure to me to read it to some of our Northern mugwumps and Democrats, as they deny that such feelings exist in the South."

"Wilson's Creek" Again.

We mislaid the answer of "Wilson's Creek" to a correspondent at Thyatira, Miss., and it has just come to light. Speaking of the surprise of Sigel's battery at the battle of Wilson's Creek, he says:

Gen. Sigel's men agree that the battery was marching along the road, guns all limbered up and horses on, and had not fired a shot, the men marching along behind. They saw a column of men carrying the Union flag, dressed in gray, like the 1st and 2d Kansas, and in consequence they were allowed to come right up to the battery as Lyon's men. They (the approaching column) threw down our flag, raised their own, and shot down all the battery horses; and Sigel's men, standing in double file, had about as much chance to fight as a chicken in a hawk's claws.

I was in Kansas part of the time after the repeal of that extraordinary fraud, the Missouri compromise, said repeal being proposed by the Southern Democracy through that king of Northern doughfaces, Stephen A. Douglas, who, not satisfied with licking Southern boots, said to the Northern people in Kansas, "We will subdue you," just because they objected to being robbed by drunken ruffians from Missouri and other Southern states, armed with United States muskets, (I saw them issued), and protected by United States cavalry whenever the Northern men licked them and drove them off. (I refer to Gen. Sackett, of the U. S. army for the truth of this.) I have seen a town of 100 or 150 persons cast 3,000 Democratic votes, and no other kind, by means of two ferries especially put on over to Missouri; by voting some of them 20 and 30 times (just as they do in Copiah) I saw and knew one man who voted 30 times. At last they took an old New York directory, and so Horace Greeley cast his first presidential vote, long before he became a Democratic presidential candidate, or bailed Jeff Davis, and while he was yet calling Southerners "hellhounds," etc.

But enough. Almost every man who stood on "bloody hill" that hot August day, had wrongs to avenge, and every musket shot and every bayonet thrust paid for a horse stolen, cattle butchered, a house burned, a wife insulted, or perhaps worse. Is it any wonder that though Gen. Ben. McCulloch, of Texas, said, "With almost ten to one we ought to go up and tie that little band of men hand and foot," that he could neither tie them nor could he drive them one inch. As a Texas lieutenant wrote to a Texas newspaper, "Fourteen times our force charged up that hill, and fourteen times were we driven back at the point of the bayonet."

A Foraging Incident.

William Defebaugh, Co. G, 113th Ohio, Seely, Kan., says:

I was a regular detailed forager on Sherman's march to the sea. There were about 300 of us sent up the Savannah river. We halted ten miles above Savannah, and concluded to cross and pay South Carolina a visit. In order to do this we had two branches of the river to cross and a large island. Through the island there was a canal cut, through which a large flat could pass at high tide. Yankee soldiers had never been there, from the number of hogs, chickens and other eatables too numerous to mention that fell into our hands. We had got all that we could carry. The writer, with the half of a tolerable good sized hog, hind and fore legs tied together, slung over his shoulder like a shot pouch, when we noticed a regiment of rebel cavalry forming for a move toward us. We all made a quick disappearance into the rice bottoms which had high levees in all directions, dividing the bottoms into small fields. They were too wet and muddy for horses to pass over, so the Johnnies had no other way to come at us but on the levees, and wisely concluding that to be dangerous they drew off. When we reached the river late in the afternoon the tide was down. When we crossed the first branch of the river to the island we found no water in the canal to carry our boats to the other side. We had to abandon our flat, and two boys started around the island with a small canoe to our first crossing in the morning, where we had fortunately left an old log canoe. The boys had gone about 300 yards when they were fired upon. Taken by surprise they both plunged into the river, leaving their guns in the canoe, swam to shore and hid in the flags, calling to us below to save their guns, which we did when the canoe came floating down. The last branch of the river we crossed after dark in our log canoe. Next day we marched into camp at Savannah. Would be thankful if any of the party would write to me, especially those two boys that were fired upon in the canoe.

The Capture of Arkansas Post.

William R. Oaks, Co. A, 26th Iowa, Sabula, Ia., writes of the battle of Arkansas Post:

Arkansas Post, or Fort Hindman, as it was sometimes called, was on the north bank of the Arkansas, about 40 miles from its mouth, and defended by 5,000 rebels under Gen. Churchill. The fort was built with good parapets, draw-bridge, and ditch, and was an inclosed work of four bastions; the face or river side being protected by two thicknesses of hewn timber, twelve inches square, the outside being covered with railroad iron. The rebels had a small steamer in their possession which they would frequently send down the river to prey on our unarmed transports, which were engaged in carrying mail and supplies. Then they would slip back under protection of the forts' guns. McClernand having determined to clean them out, on January 5, 1863, the troops embarked on transports, convoyed by the gunboats, proceeded up the Mississippi to the White river, which we reached January 8. Next day we proceeded up the White river to the cut-off, through this to the Arkansas, and up the Arkansas to Nostril's Farm, just below Fort Hindman, the plan being to attack the Fort with the gunboats while the land forces should attack and carry by assault their line of breastworks, extending from the Fort and to the north and east a distance of perhaps three-fourths of a mile, Morgan's corps to move up the river, while Sherman's corps should attack their right and flank. On the afternoon of the 10th our division (Steele's) disembarked about four miles below the Fort and commenced our approach. How many of the boys of that army have forgotten marching all night to make a distance of four miles! At early dawn skirmishing began, and at about 10:30 our division (Steele's) was ordered to advance. Our regiment approached to within about 40 yards of the rebel works, all along which could be seen a row of glistening rifles, each loaded with its deadly messenger, while behind them plainly visible were the exultant enemy with finger on trigger, waiting the command to fire. When within 40 yards we distinctly heard the command to fire, and it seemed as the very earth was rent in twain. Exposed as we were at that moment to the murderous fire of intrenched infantry, also a raking fire of grape and canister, the slaughter was awful. At that time orders were given for the men to fall down and protect themselves the best they could, and to keep up a continual firing on the rebels, which at that close range made it impossible for them to work their artillery. No sooner would they be seen at the embrasures either loading or sighting their guns, than fifty rifles would be leveled and fired at them. While the battle was raging in front, the gunboats were not idle, but gradually approaching until they were under the very muzzles of the guns of Fort Hindman. Thus the battle raged until about 4 p. m. At this time most of the enemy's guns in the fort were dismounted, the fort silenced, and the gunboats lying in a position to enfilade, they finally ran up the white flag all along their lines and surrendered. We had won a brilliant victory, but at a fearful cost.

Rebel Reminiscences—Epistle No. 3.

To the Editor of the Blade Camp Fire:

In these "reminiscences," I do not wish to be understood as writing them in chronological order. I simply relate occurrences that have impressed themselves in my mind, without reference to dates or localities. I never kept a diary, and find now, after the lapse of so many years, that dates and names cannot be recalled, while certain events are remembered as distinctly as though they happened but yesterday. Among my fellow-soldiers, and a personal friend, also, was a simon-pure Yankee, who had wandered down South a few years before the war. I shall call him Sam, for short. Why he ever enlisted in the rebel army I never was able to find out. He was tall, lank and ugly; a good mechanic, with a good situation, and might have remained at work and never been disturbed. I sometimes thought that Sam had fallen in love with some southern girl, and had joined the army to win her favor; but if such was the case he kept his secret well. When the other boys would be talking about their wives and sweethearts, Sam would remain silent. He did not believe in slavery, as I often heard him say it would be a good thing for the South if it could be wiped out. He did not like military life; he was a Northern man in every sense of the word, yet he cast his fortunes with the South, while all his relatives were in the North. Sam had considerable money (all in gold and silver) when he enlisted, and I have been indebted to him for many a "square meal." The other boys soon spent what money they had, but I never knew a time that Sam could not fish out a quarter, a half, or even a dollar. When all the darkies had declared there "wasn't a mou'ful about the house," Sam would take some old "uncle" or "aunt" to one side, and producing the "hard cash," ask if they didn't have a chicken, a piece of ham or something of the kind hid away. His "eloquence" hardly ever failed. With a "bress your heart, massa, I'll see," the old darkey would disappear, poke around awhile, and finally come back with something tied up very carefully. It was the same way when tobacco became scarce; Sam's pipe was alway filled, and he would willingly divide with his particular friends. In contrast with Sam was a little fellow I shall call Phil, a native of Virginia, who believed in slavery and thought the South was right in going to war for the institution. Phil had been brought up in luxury, and never knew what it was to do a day's work when he didn't feel like it. He was quite dandified, and took great pride in his personal appearance. It worried him when his clothes began to give out, and he could not replace them. After all the other boys had got used to "scratching," and knew well enough what was the matter, Phil took me aside one day, and, with tears in his eyes, said he believed he had lice. I could hardly restrain myself, but the poor fellow looked so pitiful that I managed to keep my countenance, bear his story and commiserate with him. "My God!" said he, "to think I should come to this! It will drive me crazy." Phil got used to it, however, before the war closed. DIXIE.

Shelbyville, Tenn.

THE RISING SUN STOVE POLISH

For Beauty of Polish, Saving Labor, Cleanliness, Durability and Cheapness, Unequalled. MORSE BROS., Proprietors, Canton, Mass.

Information Wanted.

☞ Requests of this sort will be inserted in this department at the rate of 50 cents for three lines, one insertion. It is impossible to insert them free.

Wanted, the address of some officer or member of Co. C, 55th Regiment, Illinois Vols., that made the march from Atlanta to the sea. You will help an old comrade.—R. U. BISHOP, Salina, Saline Co., Kans.

—Recognizing the superior excellence of the St. Louis Magazine, we have arranged to furnish it with the WEEKLY BLADE at the low price of $1.75 a year for both publications, the Magazine, under its large and improved condition, being $1.50 alone. Sample copy of Magazine and set of gold colored picture cards sent to anyone for 10 cents. Address C. Gilmore, 213 N Eighth street, St. Louis, Mo.

What Others Have Found Out.

A little borax put in the water in which scarlet napkins and red-bordered towels are to be washed will prevent them fading.

It is worth recollecting that bar-soap should be cut into square pieces and put into a dry place, as it keeps better after shrinking.

By rubbing with a damp flannel dipped in the best whiting, the brown discoloration may be taken off cups in which custards have been baked.

Why purchase inferior nutmegs when their quality can be tested by pricking them with a pin? If they are good the oil will instantly spread around the puncture.

Carpets, after the dust has been beaten out, may be brightened by scattering upon them corn meal mixed with salt, and then sweeping it off; mix salt and meal equal proportions.

Rub your black walnut sewing machine tables, your cabinet organ, or any other piece of solid furniture you may have, with a cloth moistened with kerosene oil, and you will quickly see an improvement, but keep it away from varnish.

When putting away the silver tea or coffee pot, which is not used every day, lay a little stick across the top under the cover. This will allow fresh air to get in and prevent the mustiness of the contents, familiar to hotel and boarding-house sufferers.

Crape may be renovated by thoroughly brushing all dust from the material, sprinkling with alcohol and rolling in a newspaper, commencing with the paper and crape together, so that the paper may be between every portion of the material. Allow it to remain so until dry.

Good housekeepers are frequently annoyed by oil marks on papered walls against which careless or thoughtless persons have laid their heads. These unsightly spots may be removed by making a paste of cold water and pipe-clay or fuller's earth, and laying it on the surface without rubbing it on, else the pattern of the paper will then likely be injured. Leave the paste on all night. In the morning it can be brushed off, and the spot will have disappeared, but a renewal of the operation may be necessary if the oil mark is old.

A Sad Case of Poisoning

is that of any man or woman afflicted with disease or derangement of the liver, resulting in poisonous accumulations in the blood, scrofulous affections, sick headaches, and diseases of the kidneys, lungs or heart. These troubles can be cured only by going to the primary cause, and putting the liver in a healthy condition. To accomplish this result speedily and effectually nothing has proved itself so efficacious as Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery," which has never failed to do the work claimed for it, and never will.

What Tongue Did Christ Speak?

Some students of this question, which the revision of the Old Testament has beset with renewed interest, are of the opinion that the population of Palestine at the time of Christ's mission was Greek. The Rev. Alexander Roberts, D. D., recently published a book on the Old Testament revision, in which he gives some reasons for this conclusion. For centuries preceding the coming of Christ the Greek language permeated the countries bordering on the Mediterranean. The old Hebrew, in which the law had been written, has become a dead language, and only the learned men of that period were able to read the Pentateuch. The pure Hebrew race in Palestine spoke Aramaic, which was unlike the Hebrew of Moses and Isaiah. The Greek language and Aramaic were, then, the tongues spoken in that country at the time of the coming of our Lord. Hence Dr. Roberts argues that while teaching the people Christ would address them in a language that they understood. Even if he knew the Scriptures in the original Hebrew, he would no more be likely to use them in that way than a modern preacher who knows the New Testament in the original Greek would give his text in that.

The evidence that the common people understood Greek our authority considers conclusive. As examples of facts which led him to this opinion he quotes the epistles which were written in Greek by some of the apostles to the Hebrew Christians. Paul's epistle to the Greeks were, of course, written in Greek. "But," asks Dr. Roberts, "why should Peter, who was a strict Hebrew, write his epistles in Greek unless the Hebrews understood Greek? Why was the epistle to the Hebrews ascribed to Paul written in Greek?" The apostles appear to have spoken in Aramaic and in Greek, as the occasion seemed to demand. Christ did not address himself merely to a province, but to the world, and his utterances were, therefore, in the language that was best understood. Greek was the language of civilization; moreover, "it was the civilization of that era which accepted him, while the Hebrews rejected him."

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases, but, when specially requested, they will not be published.
2. No attention will be paid to mathematical problems, questions of grammatical construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals, firms or corporations.
3. Communications for this department MUST be written on a separate sheet, directed to the "Question Bureau," and contain not more than three questions. Do not ask a question and then proceed to argue it. If we can answer it, and it is considered of general interest, it will be answered. It is useless to request an answer in the "next issue." The question bureau is always full, and we are usually two or three weeks behind.
4. This department is not intended to settle petty disputes or decide bets. Replies to questions are intended to be of general interest, and no one has the right to DEMAND a reply. As all matter for this department passes through the hands of one man, he is the best judge of what shall and what shall not be answered. Do not request an answer by mail.
5. No question will receive the SLIGHTEST attention unless the first and third rules above are STRICTLY complied with.

H. E. W., Muscoda, Wis.: Write to Lee & Shepard, Boston, Mass.

M. C. M., Rensselaer, Ind.:
What is the population of Constantinople?
About 600,000.

W. W. B., Orwell, Ill.:
Did the United States government ever issue 25 and 50 cents in gold coin?
No.

There is a call from the soldier boys for Miles O'Reilly's song "Muster of the Eleven," or "Their Swords Were Thirty seven." The BLADE will publish it if some one will furnish the copy.

A. W. D., Ashton, Kan.:
Where can the book be had called the "Iron Wires Examined, and the False Spokes Extracted," written by Parson Brownlow?
Try Lee & Shepard, Boston, Mass.

C. W., Fishers, N. Y.:
Can you inform me where ——, the great inventor of a deaf cure, where you deaf person may hear, lives?
Not nor do we believe such a man lives anywhere.

E. O. B., Pioneer, Mich.:
1. What became of the "little Monitor"? 2. Will you please publish the song entitled "The Cumberland Crew?" My father was an old soldier and would like to see the song published.
1. Foundered off Cape Hatteras, December 31, 1862. 2. Have never seen a copy.

L. W., Troy, O.:
Some authors say that Israel Putnam was building a wall on his farm, others say he was plowing when he heard of the battle of Lexington. Is it definitely known what he was doing?
As a matter of fact, he was plowing, with a yoke of oxen. But it is of no particular importance what he was doing at the time. His readiness to take up arms for his country was the important part of the matter.

E. E. H., Arbondale, Wash. Ter.:
Please give in the order they come, the commanders-in-chief of the Union army during the rebellion.
Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott (brevet lieutenant general), June, 1841, to November, 1861; Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, November 1, 1861, to March 11, 1862; Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck, July 11, 1862, to March 12, 1864; Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, March 12, 1864, to July 25, 1866, and as general to March 4, 1869.

N. S. S., Fletcher, Ill.:
Where and by whom was the sweet potato first discovered?
There is some doubt about the native country of the sweet potato, some authors asserting positively that it is of East Indian origin, while others claim it is a native of America. Sweet potatoes were among the presents Columbus took to Isabella on his return from the new world, and the plant was in general cultivation in Spain in the sixteenth century; on the other hand it is said to have been cultivated in China and other parts of the East in very early times.

C. L. M., Canton, O.:
1. What is the meaning of "limited" in the following connection: —— company, (limited)? 2. In the selling of pools on horse-races, what does the following term mean: Mutuals paid $5? 3. Will you please publish a table showing the wages paid district school teachers in six or eight different states and territories?
1. That the partners are only responsible for the amount invested. 2. It is a pooling scheme imported from France, but the BLADE is not very well posted about gambling pools. 3. No; the table has been published once. Such tables should be saved, as we cannot afford to publish them for each subscriber.

X., (no Postoffice):
What is the value of a ton of gold?
We take the following from the *Mechanical Engineer*: "One ton (2,000 pounds avoirdupois) of gold or silver contains 29,163 troy ounces, and, therefore, the value of a ton of pure gold is $602,799.21, and a ton of silver $36,701.84. A cubic foot of pure gold weighs 1,218.75 pounds avoirdupois; a cubic foot of pure silver weighs 656.25 pounds avoirdupois. One million dollars gold coin weighs 3,685.8 pounds avoirdupois; $1,000,000 silver coin weighs 58,929.9 pounds avoirdupois."

H. N., Grattan, Mich.:
1. Of the Ohio Legislature which ratified the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the United States constitution, which party was in the majority? 2. Was a resolution offered to rescind the ratification? 3. What was the party vote on that resolution?
1. The Republicans. 2. It was rescinded by the next Democratic legislature, but Congress didn't pay any attention to the matter, holding that when a legislature once ratified a constitutional amendment it could not recall its action. 3. A strict party vote, of course.

C. H. M., Virginia, Mo.:
1. There are two branches of the Mormon church. One practices polygamy and the other does not tolerate it. Please give the relative strength of both. 2. Was polygamy one of the tenets of the Mormon church when first organized? 3. Was polygamy practiced and sanctioned while the church was under the control of Joseph Smith?
1. The Mormons who believe in polygamy number about 111,000; the Latter-day Saints (anti-polygamists) claim to number from 30,000 to 50,000. 2. No. 3. Yes; Smith introduced polygamy at Nauvoo, under a pretended revelation; but several outraged husbands revolted and established an opposition press, which Smith with a mob demolished. For this he was arrested and imprisoned, after which a mob gathered and shot the prisoners dead.

C. G., Kingston, Pa.:
Please put in your next week's items who the Shah of Persia is.
Our latest advices from Persia are to the following effect: Nassr-ed-Din, the reigning Shah, was born September 24, 1829, being the eldest son of Shah Mohammed, and succeeded to the throne at the death of his father, September 10, 1848. Sons of the Shah—Muzaffer-ed-Din, heir-apparent, born in 1852, who has two sons and four daughters; Zil-es-Sultan, born in 1849, has one son; Naib-es-Sultaneh, date of birth not given. The Shah has also several daughters. The present sovereign of Persia is the fourth of the dynasty of the Katjars, which took possession of the crown after a civil war extending over fifteen years, from 1779 to 1794. It is within the power of the Persian monarchs to alter or to overrule the existing law of succession, and to leave the crown to any member of the family. The Shah is said to be worth four millions sterling, one-half represented by diamonds.

F. Z., Fairfield, Ia.:
1. Please state whether any banks or business houses fail in Germany. 2. How is bookbinders' paste made?
1. There are very few business failures in Germany. The Germans are a careful, cautious people, and seldom venture upon wild speculations. The bank of Hamburg differs essentially from any other banking institution in the world. The difference at which it receives and pays out the silver deposits, about one-half of one per cent., constitutes the charge of the bank for custody of the funds entrusted to it, and the deposits lie idle in the bank. Its circulation is based upon fine silver bars. Of course there are occasional business failures. 2. A fine paste is made by a solution of alum and sugar of lead, 1½ ounces each in water; the mixture is heated and stirred about to boil, and is then cooled. It may be thinned, if necessary, with a gum solution. Many bookbinders dissolve bottle India rubber in highly rectified spirits of turpentine, which extracts every particle of grease.

"A Cook on the Underground Railroad," Napoleon, O., writes to the Question Bureau as follows: "I observed in your last issue an inquiry concerning the underground railway. As I lived on that 'line,' I would like to give it a more comprehensive definition. It was a secret route by which slaves were transported from one town to another in the dark, until reaching some point north, generally Canada. Usually they were conveyed in wagons by farmers who would take them after bedtime, five, ten, and even twenty miles to another farm-house, always knowing their stopping places. They would be fed and clothed if necessary, kept in chambers or some secluded part of the house in day time. Where only men slaves escaped they would be directed on the same route, walking mostly always by night. They were never conveyed by railroad, as that would be too public a manner, for the 'masters' were often hard after them. Only once on our line were the poor runaways captured—a sorry-looking group of 12 men, women and children! The color of the slaves ranged from coal black to white, or so nearly one could not tell the difference. One girl 15 years of age had blue eyes, light, long hair, and a complexion nearly blonde. All had to follow the condition of the mother, no matter how white, beautiful or smart. Thank God, it's over now!"

L. W. M., Valparaiso, Ind.:
Is there any special value for a perfect half dollar dated 1812, as a rare coin?
The price lists sent out by dealers in rare coins do not mention the halves of 1812. We take the following from an exchange, which answers a number of questions on the subject of old coins: "The silver halves were first issued in 1794. There were none made in 1798–99, 1800, 1804 and 1815. The highest premiums are paid for those bearing date of 1796 and 1797—from $30 to $40 each. The year 1794 is worth $5; 1795 only 75 cents; 1801 and 1802 a couple of dollars each; 1803 to 1814, 60 cents apiece; 1815 (always a restrike over the 1812 half dollar), about $7; 1817 to 1837, 60 cents each; 1836, milled edge, $3; 1838 New Orleans mint (having "o" mark under head), $5; 1839 to 1850, 60 cents; 1851, $1; $1852, $6; 1853, 60 cents; 1853, without arrows, $25, and 1854 to 1864, about 55 cents each; 1880 commands a slight premium, bringing readily 70 cents when fine. Quarter dollars were coined annually, beginning with 1796, excepting the following years: 1798 to 1803, 1808 to 1814, inclusive, 1817, 1826, 1829 and 1830. More were made in 1857 than any other year, no less than 30,396,700 pieces, and the fewest number in 1797, 252 pieces. The quarters coined in 1797 have disappeared long ago. Not a single one of them is known to be in the possession of either collectors or dealers. Those dated 1823 and 1827 being fabulous prizes if for sale, the former being quoted at $75, the latter at $100. This can be accounted for from the fact that only a limited number were struck off during the two years named—17,800 in 1823 and 4,000 in 1827. The quarter dollar bearing date of 1796 is worth $5; 1804, $5; 1805, 1806 and 1807, 75 cents each; 1815, 75 cents; 1816, none to be had; 1818, 1819, 1820, 1821, and 1822, 50 cents each; 1824 and 1825, 60 cents; 1828, 50 cts.; 1831 to 1852, 5 cts. added to the face value; 1853, without arrows on both sides of date, from $4 to $8, and 1854 to 1884 a slight premium above face value if in fine condition, except 1879, which bring about $1.25 each. Only 450 were made in 1879, hence their scarcity. Quite a difference from the flood of 1877. Their coinage has been [illegible] to about 16,000 a year."

J. H., Somerset, Ind.:
Where can the land patent be found of land purchased at the Ft. Wayne land office in 1848?
General land office, Washington, D. C.

R. S. G., Wash. Ter.:
Is there any state that has abolished the death penalty? If so, what was the result?
Several—Michigan among others. The result is that the people often take the law into their own hands.

G. G. S., Wakeman, O.: The land offices in Oregon are at Oregon City, La Grande, the Dalles, Rosenburg and Lakeview. Cannot give you any definite information about the southern tier of counties.

If A. M., Cheney, Kan., would read the BLADE'S Congressional reports he would know all about the Oklahoma lands, and why they were not open to white settlers. The Senate—a very high authority—has decided that Pres. Arthur is right in driving out the boomers.

T. S. P., Appleton, O.: Your questions in regard to the liquor question in Ohio have been discussed at great length in the BLADE. As to whether the decisions of the Ohio Supreme court have been influenced by the liquor element, is of course impossible to prove. Lawyers and judges construe the constitution differently, and it is but charitable to suppose that they are honest in their convictions. There is no doubt about one thing, however, and that is that the Democrats of Ohio owe their success in securing the legislature, judges and governor to the almost solid support of the liquor element. This element would not have supported the candidates blindly, not knowing their sentiments on the liquor traffic and their construction of the constitution.

J. B. O., Deanstown, O.:
1. What is the amount offered as a reward for the solving of the perpetual motion problem, and by whom was it offered? 2. Is Fred Douglass a representative from Illinois? If not, what office does he hold? 3. Who is the present leader and who is the present governor of the Mormons? 4. Where can I get the platform of the Prohibition party, as I have not seen any yet?
1. Do not know anything about it. It will never be solved, so it is not worth while to bother about it. 2. Fred Douglass is register of deeds for the District of Columbia, but Cleveland will no doubt request him to step out. 3. Eli H. Murray is governor of the territory. A man named Taylor succeeded Young as head of the Mormon church. 4. The platform was published in full in the BLADE at the time the convention was held. It always pays to read all departments of the paper.

F. C., Peachville, Pa.:
1. Was John Brown, of Harper's Ferry fame, considered a sane man? 2. Was he wounded at the time of capture? 3. Did he and his men murder persons prior to the attack in his stronghold? 4. Was he a member of any religious denomination?
1. He was so considered by some, but he repelled with indignation the plea of insanity attempted to be urged in his behalf. 2. Yes, severely wounded. 3. Haywood, a negro porter at the railroad depot, was ordered by Brown's followers to join them. He refused, and, attempting to escape, was shot dead. 4. He received a strict religious education, and at 16 years of age was a communicant of the Congregational church. On one occasion in Kansas he compelled a party of profane Missourians, captured by him, to kneel and pray under penalty of being shot; and at Harper's Ferry he caused his followers to engage daily in prayer at the reading of the Scriptures.

S. B. J., Bryan, O.:
1. Please explain the reason for what follows: During a spell of clear cold winter weather, I was working at a piece of fine all-wool dress goods. After sewing the silk fringe around the overskirt, I hung it over a chair and stepped back to view the effect. On approaching the chair to again take up the work, the fringe straightened out toward me as if effected by electricity. As I retreated it would drop, and as I came nearer and walked around the chair a width of about two feet would seem to follow me in that position. This lasted for several days, and appeared for me only, though many others tried it. 2. Please tell me why New Jersey people are called "Blue." There is a reason, and I wish very much to know it.
1. The BLADE will turn this question over to its corps of scientific correspondents for solution. 2. Probably from the fact that bluefish are caught in New Jersey waters, or else from the Blue mountain range in the state.

Sub., Columbus, Kan.:
1. What constitutes an army corps? 2. What is the capital of the Northwest Territory? 3. Are the twenty and five-cent pieces coined now?
1. Two or more divisions, under the command of a major general. 2. Fort Garry, Manitoba, is the headquarters of the Hudson Bay company in America. Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion of Canada, and Battleford the seat of government of the territories. The territories now outside Manitoba, Keewatin and British Columbia are governed by the lieutenant-governor of the Northwest Territories and by a council of five members, appointed by the governor general in council. As soon as any district of not more than 1,000 square miles contains 1,000 adult inhabitants, it may elect a member of the council for two years, and a second member when such inhabitants number 2,000. When there are 21 elected members, they will constitute a legislative assembly, and the appointed council will cease. 3. The 20-cent piece is not coined any more.

A. J. S., Galesburg, Mich.:
Will you please favor me with a recipe for nickel plating on steel or other metals?
We have given this once or twice, but will repeat it for your benefit: Stolba's Method of Nickel Plating—Into the plating vessel—which may be of porcelain, but preferably of copper—is placed a concentrated solution of chloride of zinc, which is then diluted with from one to two volumes of water, and heated to boiling. If any precipitate separates, it is to be redissolved by adding a few drops of hydrochloric acid. As much powdered zinc as can be taken on the point of a knife is thrown in, by which the vessel becomes covered internally with a coating of zinc. The nickel salt—for which purpose either the chloride or sulphate may be used—is then added until the liquid is distinctly green; and the articles to be plated, previously thoroughly cleaned, are introduced, together with some zinc fragments. The boiling is continued for 15 minutes, when the coating of nickel is completed, and the process is finished. The articles are well washed with water and cleaned with chalk. If a thicker coating be desired, the operation may be repeated.

W. H. W., East Worcester, N. Y.:
Can you give a recipe for making fire-proof paint, or tell of anything that can be mixed with paint that will make it incombustible?
Take a quantity of the best quicklime, and slack with water in a covered vessel; when the slacking is complete, water or skim milk, or a mixture of both, should be added to the lime, and mixed up to the consistency of cream; then there must be added, at the rate of 20 pounds alum, 15 pounds potash, and 1 bushel salt to every 100 gallons of creamy liquor. If the paint is required to be white, 6 pounds plaster of Paris, or the same quantity of fine white clay, is to be added to the above proportions of the other ingredients. All these ingredients being mingled, the mixture must then be strained through a fine sieve, and afterwards ground in a color mill. When roofs are to be covered, or when crumbling brick walls are to be coated, fine white sand is mixed with the paint, in the proportion of 1 pound sand to 10 gallons of paint; this addition being made with a view of giving the ingredients a binding or petrifying quality. This paint should always be applied in a hot state, and in very cold weather precautions are necessary to keep it from freezing. Three coats of this paint are deemed, in most cases, sufficient. Any color may be obtained by adding the usual pigments to the composition.

D. S. C., Glenville, Neb.:
I would like to have a description of Khartoum, so often mentioned in your foreign news. What is the character of the inhabitants, etc.?
N. F. Graves contributed an article to the Chicago *Journal*, some time ago, from which we make the following extracts: "Khartoum is the chief city, as well as the capital, of the Soudan country claimed by Egypt. It is located on the peninsula formed by the junction of the Blue and the White Nile. The dock yards and principal landings are on the Blue Nile. The water in the river is about 1,400 feet above the level of the sea. A great portion of the city lies low, so that at high water it is flooded, which renders it unhealthy, but it is believed that some day a remedy for that evil will be provided. The gardens around the city are extensive and contain long rows of date palms, many of which are half a century old and have become very valuable. The view of the city from the opposite side of the river is very fine. The grove of palm trees shading the numerous buildings, and their dark green foliage contrasting with the bright colors of the numerous buildings makes a view that is captivating to behold; but a nearer view of the city destroys the romance, for it is dirty and vile. This is not one of the ancient cities of those great valleys. It was founded by Mohammed Ali in 1823, and the slave trade gathered here, and the city increased in population rapidly, and in 1850 had 40,000 people. Soon after 1850 the disturbance of the country rendered Khartoum an unsafe place to remain in, and the city was nearly deserted. The English Consul was withdrawn and the office abolished, but more recently the provinces became quiet and trade was restored and the city increased rapidly, and is now said to contain a population of 50,000 people. The inhabitants are a strange mixture of all colors, consisting of Egyptians, Berbers, Arabs, Turks, Jews, Europeans and blacks. The principal part of the town consists of mud-built huts, but quite recently a large number of modern buildings have been erected, which look substantial and imposing, especially the new palace of the Governor, which is of fine faced stone. The city is the center of the caravan trade from the interior of Africa, which is a reliable trade and a great source of wealth to the city, but the slave trade has been a source of great profit and many thousands of poor slaves have been brought to this market, and from here sent to all the slave markets of the world. The merchants of the city have a great number of settlements in districts near the present ivory countries, and among a simple and peaceful people, and have really brought many races to a sort of vassalage by keeping their agents with armed men in the country, compelling the natives to pay tribute to the Khartoum merchants. This company of merchants are in confederacy with the principal chiefs, and have become very oppressive to the people in the interior. The city is 1,500 miles from Cairo, and the voyage down the river is long and tedious. The usual route from Cairo is by the Red Sea to Souakim, which is the seaport of the Soudan, and from thence by caravan to Berber, about 280 miles, and from Berber, which is on the Nile, southward to Khartoum, nearly 300 miles. The climate is a severe one. From June till October the thermometer ranges in the day time from 95° to 100° in the shade, and about 82° in the night time. In the winter it is 80° in the day time and about 62° in the night, but when a north wind prevails the thermometer falls to 58° in the night. The rain fall is light and uncertain, which renders the country a desert, depending entirely on irrigation. A small proportion of plantations in the vicinity have wheels to lift the water from the river for the purpose of irrigating their land, but, strange as it may appear, the government imposes a tax on the wheel, which is so oppressive that most of the producers wait for the river to rise, and, if it does not, they lose their crop, and often are in great want in consequence thereof. The Catholics established a mission in the city in 1846. A great deal of labor has been bestowed upon it, but with very little success, and the same may be said of all other missions. There is a small Coptic church where the people of that ancient race meet to worship, but all beside belong to the Mohammedans."

H. A., Milan, Mich.: Write to T. W. Talmadge, Washington, D. C.

Sub., Heith, Ark.: We believe there is a law school in St. Louis. Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati, O., make a specialty of law books.

F. G. C., Castile, N. Y.: Perhaps you did not give the recipe for mending rubber boots a fair trial. It was taken from a standard work, and we have no better to offer.

Sub., Webb City, Mo.:
Please send "language of stamps."
Was given in Weekly of January 29, second page, fourth column.

Sub., Creston, Ia.:
Please give the address of Mark Twain.
His name is Samuel L. Clemens. We understand that he now makes his home in Hartford, Conn.

Reader, Fillmore, Ind.:
1. Please let us know whether the entire surface of the great lakes freeze over at any time. 2. Give the number of foreign and native inhabitants in the United States by the census of 1880.
1. Very seldom. 2. Native born, 43,475,840; foreign born, 6,679,943.

W. W. S., Smithport, Pa.:
1. Why was Kansas City so named and is it located in Missouri? 2. Is there any place in Kansas called by that name?
1. Because of its location near the mouth of the Kansas river. 2. There is a suburb in Kansas, adjacent, also known as Kansas City.

F. F., Berkey, O.:
Please inform me as to the number of wives Brigham Young had. Also the name of the first one and the name of the last one.
We believe the old sinner had 19 actual wives, besides many who were "sealed" to him as spiritual wives. Do not know the name of his first wife; his 19th wife was named Eliza Ann.

C. P., South Montville, Me.:
I would like to know if there is any popular and reliable work that treats of the fossil remains found in Siberia, etc., which substantiate the statement that the north of Europe and Asia once possessed a torrid or tropical climate, and where can such work be found?
There are a number of standard works on geology. Write to Lee & Shepard, Boston, for catalogue.

C. F., Boniphan, Kan.:
1. What was the original cost of the United States capitol? 2. What are all the issues of United States coin that the government will now pay a premium on?
1. Five million dollars. 2. We were not aware that the government was paying a premium for any coins. Only the collectors of curiosities offer premiums for old coins.

E. S. R., Angelica, N. Y.:
Near the close of his public life, Charles Sumner introduced a resolution into Congress providing that the names of the battles won over fellow-citizens in the rebellion should be removed from the regimental colors of the army. Did this become a law?
No. The Massachusetts legislature censured Sumner for advocating the measure, but a subsequent legislature rescinded the resolution.

W. O. W., Chana, Ill.:
1. Who was Guy Fawkes? 2. What is Halloween and why is it celebrated?
1. A religious fanatic, who thought it his duty to blow up the King and the houses of parliament, in November, 1605. He was executed January 31, 1606. His conspiracy is known as the Gunpowder Plot. 2. It is the name popularly given to the eve or night of All Hallows, or festival of All Saints, which being November 1, Halloween is the evening of October 31.

J. H. D., Avondale, O.:
1. Has the legislature of Ohio power to grant local option in a township or county? 2. What liquor laws, if any, are now in force in Ohio? 3. What was the McConnelsville ordinance?
1. Yes. 2. There have been several convictions lately under the old law forbidding the sale of liquor to be drank on the premises, etc., but there seems to be some doubt whether we have any liquor laws in force, except such as are passed by municipalities to enforce order. 3. Local option.

L. L. D., Reading, Kan.: There was no trouble in Cincinnati at the Presidential election. It was at the October election that the deputy marshals and city police came in conflict. The BLADE has given all the facts, including the Springer committee investigation. Two reports will be made by that committee—the one by the Democrats censuring the deputy marshals, the other by the Republicans censuring the city police. Men were arrested on both sides. Some Republicans were arrested and kept in jail until it was too late to vote, then turned out without having had a trial.

J. A. S., Caisse, Ind.:
Please inform me where our common free school system started, and who were the originators of it.
Laws were passed in Massachusetts and Connecticut in 1642–48 requiring every township to maintain a free school. There is some dispute as to which state was the first to take action, but from that year dates the commencement of our public school system. Your questions as to which party is entitled to the credit of establishing public schools are not pertinent, as the people had not divided into political parties at that time. The public school question should be, and generally is, kept clear of politics.

A. W. L., Offingham, Ill.:
1. Who was the pirate Lafitte, and where did he operate? 2. Who was the pirate Gibbs, and where did he operate?
1. Jean Lafitte was born in France, about 1780. There is considerable obscurity about his early history, but in 1813 he was the leader of an organized and formidable band in Barataria Bay, and his name was a terror to the owners of trading vessels. A British force, under Commodore Patterson, stormed his headquarters at Grand Terre, but he and his comrades escaped into the swamps of the interior, where they remained in safety until the British retired, when they returned and resumed operations. Lafitte was afterwards invited to assist the British in the expedition to New Orleans, the command of a fine ship and a large sum of money being offered as a bribe. He pretended to accept the offer, but privately communicated with the American governor of New Orleans, and offered his services on condition of receiving a free pardon for himself and followers. This was promised, and he rendered efficient service in fortifying Barataria Bay, and in conflicts with the British. The remainder of his life is involved in obscurity. One account says he returned to his old pursuits, and formed a settlement on the site of the present city of Galveston, which was broken up in 1821. He was of colossal stature, handsome, of polished manner, and exercised an irresistible influence over his followers. He may be described as the last of the "romantic pirates." 2. Never heard of him.

J. R. F., Sawyer City, Pa.:
1. How many rooms are there in the capitol at Washington, and how much ground does it cover? 2. How many rooms in the White House? 3. Give a description of the Washington monument, when begun, and its cost.
1. Do not know the number of rooms. The whole edifice covers 3½ acres. The Senate Chamber is 113 by 81 feet. The long apartment in the rear of the Senate Chamber, known as the Marble Room, is constructed wholly of marble, the ceiling resting upon four Corinthian columns of Italian marble, while the walls are wholly of variegated Tennessee marble, highly polished. Adjoining the Marble Room is the President's room, and on the opposite side is the room of the Vice-President, with the Senate postoffice just beyond. The south wing of the capitol is occupied by the House of Representatives, with numerous offices and committee rooms. The hall of the House is the largest legislative chamber in the world, measuring 139 feet in length by 93 in width, and 36 feet in height. The library of Congress occupies the whole western projection of the central building. 2. The White House stands on Pennsylvania avenue, occupying a reservation of about twenty acres of ground. It is a plain edifice of freestone, painted white, 170 feet long by 85 feet wide. We do not know how many small rooms there are in the house, but will mention the principal apartments. The largest apartment, known as the East Room, is 80 by 40 feet in dimensions, and 22 feet high. The adjoining Blue Room, a beautiful apartment finished in blue and gold, is devoted to receptions, diplomatic and social. The Green Room and Red Room (so called from their furnishings) are each 30 by 20 feet. The rooms of the second floor are occupied by the executive office and the President's secretaries, together with apartments for the Presidential family. 3. All this has recently been given in the news columns of the BLADE.

C. W., Marshalltown, Ia.:
1. Describe the Greek church, the points of difference from the Catholic and other. 2. Publish table of total number of legal voters at the Presidential election, and the vote actually cast. What per cent. of the total vote was cast? 3. What is the legal weight of a bushel of flour?
1. The following are some of the chief tenets held by the Greek church: They disown the authority of the pope, and deny that the church of Rome is the true Catholic church. They do not baptize their children till they are three, four, five, six, ten, nay, sometimes eighteen years of age; baptism is performed by trine immersion. They insist that the sacrament of the Lord's supper ought to be administered in both kinds, and they give the sacrament to children immediately after baptism. They grant no indulgences, nor do they lay any claim to the character of infallibility, like the church of Rome. They deny that there is any such place as purgatory; notwithstanding they pray for the dead, that God would have mercy on them at the general judgment. They practice the invocation of saints; though, they say, they do not invoke them as deities, but as intercessors with God. They exclude confirmation, extreme unction, and matrimony, out of the seven sacraments. They deny auricular confession to be a divine precept, and say it is only a positive injunction of the church. They pay no religious homage to the eucharist. They administer the communion in both kinds of the laity, both in sickness and in health, though they have never applied themselves to their confessors; because they are persuaded that a lively faith is all which is requisite for the worthy receiving of the Lord's supper. They maintain that the Holy Ghost proceeds only from the Father, and not from the Son. They believe in predestination. They admit of no images in relief or embossed work, but use paintings and sculptures in copper or silver. They approve of the marriage of priests, provided they enter into that state before their admission into holy orders. They condemn all fourth marriages. They observe a number of holy days, and keep four fasts in the year more solemn than the rest, of which the fast in Lent, before Easter, is the chief. They believe the doctrine of consubstantiation, or the union of the body of Christ with the sacramental bread. Since the Greeks became subject to the Turkish yoke, they have sunk into the most deplorable ignorance, in consequence of the slavery and thraldom under which they groan; and their religion is now greatly corrupted. It is, indeed, little better than a heap of ridiculous ceremonies and absurdities. The head of the Greek church is the patriarch of Constantinople, who is chosen by the neighboring archbishops and metropolitans, and confirmed by the emperor or grand vizier. He is a person of great dignity, being the head and director of the Eastern church. The other patriarchs are those of Jerusalem, Antioch, and Alexandria. 2. We have published the table, and given notice that it would not be published again. According to the Tribune Almanac the vote at the last Presidential election was as follows: Blaine, 4,851,981; Cleveland, 4,874,986; Butler, 175,370; St. John, 150,369; total vote, 10,057,610. The census returns of 1880 gave 11,342,005 as the number of males of 21 years and over, and this number must have been increased considerably since the census was taken. 3. There is no legal weight for flour so far as we know. The legal weight of a bushel of wheat is 60 pounds.

Cyclones and Tornadoes.

Gen. Hazen has issued the following circular, which explains itself:

In view of the confusion that now exists in the use of the words "tornado" and "cyclone," the attention of editors and reporters is requested to the following brief description of the characteristics of these very distinct kind of storms, in order to attain, if possible, the desirable end of a uniform terminology:

Cyclone.—A name suggested by Piddington in East India, about 40 years ago, to apply to the violent storms of the Bay of Bengal and other tropical regions; synonymous with typhoon of the China seas and hurricane of the West Indies. A broad storm, from 100 to 500 miles in diameter, characterized by a broad cloud disc, from which heavy rain falls, with spiral inward blowing winds of destructive violence near the center, but with a calm space (ten or fifteen miles in diameter) at the centre itself, known as the "eye of the storm." The barometer always records a low atmospheric pressure near the storm-centre. Cyclones have a progressive motion, not directly visible, but apparent in the passing changes of the weather that they bring. The broad storms, often of but moderate violence, accompanied by a heavy wide-spreading sheet of cloud with rain or snow, bring warm weather in their front half and cold in their rear, which frequently covers a considerable number of our states at once, exhibit nearly all the physical peculiarities of cyclones, although this name is not yet generally applied to them by all meteorologists. In our country such cyclonic storms never leave a narrow path of destructive action along the track of their central passage, but they are rather beneficial than otherwise, as they bring the greater share of our rains. As a whole, these cyclonic storms travel across our country, from west to east, at a rate of twenty-five to thirty miles an hour, the same storm often endures for a week and its path may be followed for several thousand miles.

Tornadoes.—Are violent local storms, which appear, from records made by the numerous volunteer tornado reporters in co-operation with the Signal service, to be generated only in certain parts of the broad relatively harmless cyclonic storm. Tornadoes are marked by their well known whirling funnel cloud, and by their narrow path of destruction, within which few structures can withstand their violence. They are, therefore, very local. They advance at a rate of 25 to thirty miles an hour, corresponding to the progression of the great cyclonic storm within which they are generated; and a single tornado never endures more than an hour or two. A number of tornadoes frequently occur on the same day in adjacent states. They are commonly associated with thunder-storms and with gales or squalls of violent straight-line winds. The name *tornado* has been used as here indicated since the early part of this century in this country and in Europe. Its replacement by *cyclone* is very recent, and should be avoided in order to prevent confusion.

It is desired to give this circular as general publicity as possible so as to gain, in the coming tornado season, a use of the words tornado and cyclone that shall correspond with their original and technical meanings, and with the terminology of meteorologists throughout the world.

The Signal service reports never apply the word cyclone to our western tornadoes, and it is hoped that the daily press of the United States will follow the usage of the service.

W. B. HAZEN.

The Chinese New Year Flower.

The "water angel plant," as the name is being interpreted, is thus called because of its growth, its appearance, and its miraculous origin. In China it is found growing in running water, which keeps the bulb and the pebbles to which it attaches itself by its roots perfectly clean. When grown here a bowl is filled with clean pebbles, the bulb is placed upon them, and the dish filled with pure water. This must be changed every morning, as it is absolutely necessary to keep bulb and pebble free from slime and other impurities. The bulbs are thus planted about four weeks before the Chinese New Year and given fresh air and sunlight. Soon a multitude of white rootlets appear beneath the bulb, and find their way down among and around the pebbles, while a crown of lily-like green leaves shoots from the top. One can almost see these grow, they stretch up so fast, and then comes the buds on a stem, and in a little, almost transparent sheath at first, which opens finally and displays a cluster of blossoms something like the narcissus in shape and size, but pure waxy white with a crown of gold, and very fragrant.

This event should occur at New Year's, and then John is happy. He stands near the plant and watches it with loving eyes; he shows it to his acquaintances and receives their congratulations, and often he cuts off the "ho-ee-far," or blossom, and sends it as a choice gift to the friend he loves best.—*Boston Globe.*

For Coughs and Throat Disorders use BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. "Have never changed my mind respecting them, except I think better of that which I began thinking well of."—*Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.* Sold only in boxes.

What Is a Mahdi?

New York Herald.

Mahdi, or Mahadi, as D'Herbelet spells it, is an ancient title in the Moslem world which at first signified simply director of the faithful. But in the course of Moslem history, and especially Moslem history in Africa, it came to have another signification related to an accepted prophecy of Mohammed. It necessarily refers to the African part of Arabic history. By this secondary significance of the word the Mahadi is a certain ancient leader come again. His appearance is the "second advent" of a prophet who lived in the old days and who in all the meantime has been with the immortals. Mohammed, the twelfth Imaum, and the twelfth in descent from Ali, is the real original. He is the Mahadi who comes again every now and then. He was hidden from the world at an early age and summoned only with his disciples through his lifetime, and finally did not die, but "went up," with the fixed intention of returning to revive the glories of Moslem. As in the Christian theory, and even in the history of several monarchies, this legend of a prince who is to return has afforded a favorite pretext for no end of impostors; so it did in Islam. The most famous of these, in past ages, was Abulcassem Mohammed Ben Abdallah, the founder of the Farimite dynasty in Africa. Mohammed had prophesied that in 300 years the sun would rise in the west, and as Abulcassem's glory was in 296 of the Hegira, it was held that the prophecy referred to him, and since then the idea of the Mahadi has commonly had relation to a revival of the glories of Islam in that Western world of Moslemism, the provinces of Africa held by the Arabs.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hand by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 142 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

About Girls.

American Queen.

The girl of 16 who will neither sew nor do housework has no business to be decked out in finery and rambling about in search of fun and frolic, unless her parents are rich, and in that event she needs the watchful direction of a good mother none the less. There is no objection to fun, but it should be well-chosen and well-timed. No woman or girl who will not work has a right to share the wages of a poor man's toil. If she does work, if she makes the clothes she wears and assists in the household duties, the chances are that she will have enough self-respect to behave when play-time comes, but if she should still be a little "wild" the honest toil she has done will confer upon her some degree of right to have her own way, ill judged though it may be. The wild girl usually aspires to prominence in some social circle or other, and her manners and conduct are in greater or less degree designed to attract the following of men. She should remember that followers are not only admirers, and that the most sincere admiration a man ever feels for a woman in a drawing room is when he looks upon her and says in his own consciousness: "She is a perfect lady."

A Laughing Plant.

This is not a flower that laughs, but one that creates laughter, if the printed stories of travelers are to be believed. It grows in Arabia and is called the laughing plant because its seeds produce effects like those produced by laughing gas. The flowers are a bright yellow, and the seed pods are soft and woolly, while the seeds resemble small black beans, and only two or three grow in a pod. The natives dry and pulverize them, and the powder, if taken in small doses, makes the soberest person behave like a circus clown or a madman, for he will dance, sing or laugh most boisterously, and cut the most fantastic capers, and be in an uproariously ridiculous condition for about an hour. When the excitement ceases the exhausted exhibitor falls asleep, and when he awakes he has not the slightest remembrance of his frisky doings.—*Vick's Floral Magazine.*

TO keep the pores open, the oil glands and tubes active, and thus furnish an outlet for impurities in the perspiration and blood which cause humiliating blotches, itching humors, blackheads and minor skin blemishes; to cleanse whiten and beautify the skin, remove tan, freckles, sunburn and oily matter; to keep the hands soft, white, and free from chaps and roughness, prevent contagious skin and scalp diseases, and provide an exquisite skin beautifier and toilet, bath and nursery sanative, redolent with delicious flower odors and CUTICURA healing balsam is the special duty of the CUTICURA SOAP. CUTICURA and CUTICURA SOAP, the great Skin Cures and Beautifiers, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new blood purifier, cure every form of Skin and Blood Disease, from Pimples to Scrofula. Sold everywhere. Price: CUTICURA, 50 cents; SOAP, 25 cents; RESOLVENT, $1. POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CO., Boston, Mass.

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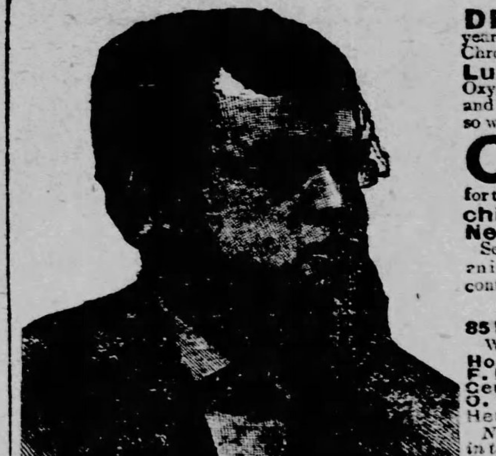

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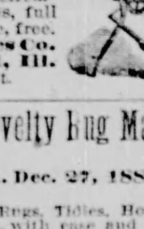

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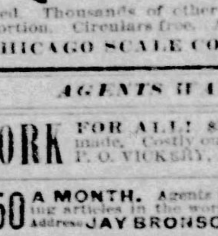

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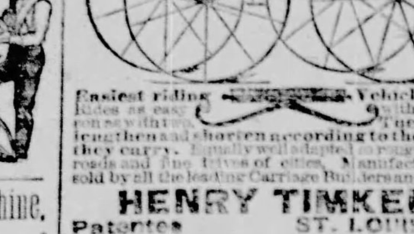

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THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., PUBLISHERS. | D. R. LOCKE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

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Circulation Last Week, 114,000.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We wish to call the especial attention of advertisers to the announcement elsewhere, of the commencement of a new serial story in the issue of the BLADE for March 5. This story will be one of absorbing interest, and to give it as wide a circulation as possible, we shall print enough copies of that issue (containing the first installment) to make that week's edition of the BLADE 200,000 copies. We are having wrappers addressed for the purpose of sending out these specimen copies. This will make that issue a most excellent medium for advertisers. Write to us at once for terms for advertising.

TO THOSE WHO DO NOT TAKE THE BLADE.

Several thousand copies of this issue of the BLADE go to persons not subscribers, their friends having sent in their names for specimen copies. We ask them to examine it carefully, and if they like it, to enroll themselves on our books. We claim for the BLADE that it is the best weekly paper published in the United States, or the world, and the cheapest. It publishes more matter, it is more carefully edited, and is altogether the best for for the family. Its enormous circulation in every state in the Union, is the best evidence of its value.

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A FRIEND writing from Cincinnati calls our attention to one point, which is no doubt entirely true of Cincinnati in particular, and doubtless of other cities of the state: "There is a statute on the books of Ohio imposing a severe penalty upon any teacher who takes advantage of his position to corrupt the purity of a female pupil. The statute ought to be extended so as to be more comprehensive. It ought to impose a penalty also upon any teacher who, in any manner, shape or form, induces, encourages, or sanctions a female pupil to drink beer, ale or wine. And why should there be such an extension of the statute? Simply that thoughtless men may be warned into doing right by our girls, and by the parents who confide their treasures to such keeping. It is a fact that cannot be denied, that in the large cities of Ohio there are numerous musical institutions, where none but foreign teachers are employed. These teachers all drink, and they are of a very social nature. There is many a little party after lessons, where an innocent girl from the country is invited to take a sip of beer or wine. The girl sees her talented teacher, whom the newspapers praise as a wonderful genius, who is the admired of everybody, take his glass. He never gets drunk; and then a great many of the very best young men of the city clink their glasses with him. What's the harm? Well, possibly, none, but, more likely, a great deal. All the same, I can recall two instances where the young ladies scandalized their whole circle by improprieties occasioned wholly by the exhilarating effects of one glass of beer apiece. Of course, if parents say their daughters can drink beer and wine with Prof. MUSICUS, no one ought to object. But you will do a duty in warning parents, if they are not aware of the existence of beer-drinking as an accompaniment to piano lessons."

FLORIDA is following the lead of North Carolina in providing for Confederate veterans from that state. A friend sends us the journal of the Florida House of Representatives of January 24, containing the discussion on a bill "to provide an annuity for disabled soldiers and sailors of the state of Florida," granting $8 per month, "on proof that the pension so provided is necessary to his comfort, proper support and maintenance," with provision for additional payment, not to exceed $8 per month, for the loss of a leg, an arm or an eye.

SINCE the downfall of KOCH's theory that the "comma" bacillus is the cause of cholera, a Bavarian pathologist, Dr. EMMERICK, has been studying the matter, and has reported the discovery of bacteria, resembling in form and size those found in diphtheria, in the blood of cholera patients; and furthermore, he has described experiments in which he appears to have produced the disease in guinea pigs by inoculation with these bacteria.

EACH successive session of Congress shows more clearly that the President should have the power to veto obnoxious items in appropriation bills, without vetoing the entire bill. Every man who has a job on hand tries to get it made a rider to some appropriation bill, and thus secure its passage. Many a plundering scheme gets the sanction of law in this way that would fail utterly as a separate bill.

MARYLAND has begun agitation of the question of securing pay from the national government for her slaves. The Democratic press of the state is urging the legislature to demand that congress shall pass an act reimbursing slave owners for their losses. This is the Bourbon idea of what a Democratic administration means.

AUSTRIA has decided to place a heavy duty on American farm products imported into the empire.

Send for our new cartoon, "Which Road do You Want Your Boy to Take?" It should be posted up in every place which the eyes of man or woman can reach. See announcement in the Publisher's Department. It should be posted up everywhere.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Bradstreet's latest issue says: "General traffic has been again greatly interrupted at the West by the severe cold weather and snow which has prevailed. Advices from Chicago intimate that the interruption to the distribution of merchandise and the movement of produce to the seaboard, together with the damage done to the railways by detentions and otherwise, are greater than have been generally made public. General trade at Chicago, of course, has been reduced to quite small proportions. The delay to transportation has been seriously felt also at St. Louis, Cincinnati, and throughout the northwest. The usual winter dullness characterizes commercial operations at St. Louis, which has been intensified by causes already outlined. The only exception is found in a slightly increased demand for dry goods. There is no gain in the volume of trade at Cincinnati, and advices from the cities west of the Mississippi river report no animation in business circles, and no signs of improvement. The week's business in Philadelphia in general lines has been on the basis of for immediate requirements only, though there is said to be a firmer feeling there as to values in most lines. At Boston the only encouraging features reported are a better demand for leather, with an advance of ½c on some grades, and a steady demand for dry goods."

THERE are forebodings that the sheet of ice which covers the wheat fields in a large part of the winter wheat belt will be highly injurious, but it will be impossible to arrive at definitely reliable estimates of such injuries until a term of mild temperature shall permit the crop to speak for itself. The department of agriculture puts the winter wheat acreage only 8 per cent. below the area of 1884, a decrease about half as great as had been indicated by private and perhaps interested statisticians. The erea of the British Isles is said to be about 12 to 15 per cent. less. These estimates promise, other conditions of the general crop being as in 1884, a reduction of about 37,000,000 bushels. It remains to be seen, however, to what extent the spring sowings may modify these indications.

THERE are indications of a general boom in the iron trade in the near future. In fact, the unexampled winter weather seems to be the one great factor which is preventing the revival of business in many lines. With the coming of spring, however, we may look with a good degree of confidence for a sharp turn upward in manufactures and commerce, and should the year prove favorable for farmers it is probable the fall will be an extremely prosperous one.

THE celebrated Tammany leader, JOHN KELLY, is said to be sick unto death, although the fact has been strenuously denied, and various reports sent out that he was convalescent and would soon be around again to direct Tammany affairs as hitherto. If this be true there will be a demoralized set of people about Tammany Hall. Without KELLY they are afloat on the seas of uncertainty.

GEN. CROOK may be supposed to know something about Indians, if a score of years fighting them gives a man knowledge. He urges their enfranchisement as a necessary condition of their industrial and moral elevation. The number of Indians at voting age is estimated at 40,000.

IT is a pity that neither the United States government or that of Mexico should be able to enforce the law along the border, and citizens of both countries be obliged to take the matter into their own hands. That is what the recent events upon the Rio Grande amount to.

CLEVELAND'S mail is already coming to Washington. During the past week several letters and marked newspapers were received at the postoffice in that city for him. One of the letters was addressed, "Hon. Mister Cleveland, President, in the White House at Washington. Please examine quick." It was doubtless from some aspiring backwoods man who wanted a fat office. The letters were forwarded to Albany.

THE discovery of large gold deposits in the Coholta Mountains of Georgia will be likely to make an early rush in that direction. The first reports have been confirmed.

THE Khartoum disaster will be felt by England in many ways. Already is her prestige impaired in the International Association, while that of France, its principal opponent, has risen. The latter has also raised her demands with reference to the settlement of Egyptian finances, and though, before the disaster, she was willing to accept the statements of England as a basis for readjustment, now she demands that they shall be verified. It will require most skilful management for the English Government to tide over the present crisis.

THE reports from the Soudan continue to be of a very conflicting character. The death of GORDON has not yet been absolutely confirmed, and, in fact, messengers from Khartoum to Korti declare to the contrary, but these declarations have not been regarded as authoritative. The probabilities are that Gen. GORDON is no longer among the living, and that his followers were massacred when Khartoum fell into the hands of EL MAHDI.

THE news from France is not reassuring so far as home matters are concerned. The large expenditures in China are a drain upon the country in its present condition; industrial establishments are closing up; strikes are prevalent, because of a reduction of wages, and it is said there are 300,000 men idle in the city of Paris alone. Unless matters brighten up, there is likely to be trouble as such a state of affairs, especially in France, is dangerous. At present there seems little likelihood of a settlement of Chinese matters.

HABITUAL criminals in France, by a vote in the French Senate, will hereafter be allowed to make their choice between transportation to the colony of New Caledonia or remaining shut up in prison in France. The probabilities are that most of them will waive their love of native land in favor of personal freedom, and France will be relieved of the presence of some of her dangerous classes.

A NEW scheme is on foot to outwit BISMARCK and get American pork into Germany. A couple of American capitalists propose to build immense yards at Montreal, and, by slaughtering the American hog there, thus de-nationalize him. The scheme is a somewhat brilliant one, though it involves delicate diplomatic questions.

LICENSE — STRATEGY OF THE ENEMY.

The Democratic majority of the Ohio Legislature has resolved to submit an amendment to the Constitution of the state licensing the liquor traffic, and the people of the state will be called upon to vote thereupon. As the Liquorites of all the states will do the same thing, these lines apply to them all.

The BLADE is sometimes willing to take half a loaf rather than no bread, but in this matter it insists upon prohibition or nothing, for the reason that in this business anything less than prohibition is nothing, or, rather, worse than nothing. We would rather see the liquor traffic as it is than to have it legalized. License is worse than nothing because it legalizes an infamous traffic, and makes it to some extent respectable by throwing over it the recognition and protection of the law.

We therefore insist of the friends of temperance, in all the states, that they oppose the proposition to license with all the means in their power, that they fight it with all the weapons at their command, and that they suffer defeat rather than make any compromise.

The liquor traffic is not to be regulated or restrained—it is to be destroyed. To license the trade is to give permission to the man hunters to continue their raids upon the homes of the country. To license it is to legalize the destruction of husbands and fathers, to give the sanction of law to the making of paupers and criminals. To license rum is to license crime and shield criminals. It is monstrous and not to be thought of.

Of course a license will yield a revenue to the state. Under the Scott law there were some millions collected from the liquor dealers, annually, but the sum, large as it was, did not reimburse the state one cent in the dollar for what the traffic cost the state. It left a terrible account unsettled. It did not give back to the fathers and mothers of the state the children murdered by Rum. It did not give back to widows and orphans the fathers lost by rum. It did not give back the hundreds of thousands moral and physical wrecks, the lost vigor of mind and body of which rum had robbed them, it did not bring up from the potter's fields the thousands of its victims, it did not pay back the cost of the horrible demoralization with which the trade is properly charged.

It has never settled its Hell account.

Attempting to offset the cost of liquor to a state by collecting licenses from the sellers, is putting in with a teaspoon and emptying from a faucet. Until a money value can be fixed upon a life, the cost of Rum can never be measured by dollars.

It is absurd to say that the traffic cannot be stopped. It has been stopped in Maine and can be in all the states. The man who says that Prohibition has not been effective in Maine either knows nothing of the subject, or wilfully lies. It has been rooted out of the country districts entirely, and it is so worried in the larger towns and cities that it may be considered practically extirpated. A city of the population of Portland would have 400 liquor saloons were it not for Prohibition. There are in the city just exactly 29 places where it is sold, four openly and in defiance of a defective law, and 25 secretly. To the youth of the city the trade is virtually closed. That the law is constantly violated is true, and the same is true of any law. No one expects to find a community where law is not violated to a greater or less extent. But we affirm that the law against liquor in Maine is observed as nearly as any law upon its statute books. At all events after giving it 30 years' trial the people of Maine voted almost unanimously to not only continue it but to make it a part of the constitution of the state. Why? Because it has lessened liquor drinking, because it has preserved the youth of the state from the contamination of the infernalism, because it has restored peace and prosperity to a Rum-ridden state, because it has done more for the state than all the legislation it has ever had. Were Prohibition a failure in Maine would the people have voted to continue it? They not only made it permanent, but they elected a legislature that will enact such laws this winter as will sweep the traffic out entirely.

Nor will it do to say that the people of Maine were especially fitted for such a law. There was no state in the Union more under the domination of Rum, thirty years ago, than Maine. Rum was everywhere. It was in every farm house, and Rum was a part of the stock of every dealer's goods. Maine consumed at that time over $13,000,000 in Rum annually, and its effects were painfully manifest in the mortgaged farms, the slovenly villages and the wretchedness generally that pervaded the state. Now the consumption of liquor is less than a half million, showing a money credit to Prohibition of $12,500,000, to say nothing of the wonderful effect upon the morals of the state.

License is exactly what the Liquor interests want. They want it, as a matter of course, as low as possible, but they want it. They want their nefarious business entrenched behind law, that they may pursue their hunt for men in security. No matter what the figure may be they will pay it. They can afford to. The profit on beer to the Brewer is from $1.50 to $2 a barrel, and on whisky it so much that it can hardly be figured. The only impediment in their way is adverse legislation and license does away with that. The law instead of hanging over them as a threat becomes a shield. They want to shelter themselves under what should be their destruction.

What Maine has done can be done in every state in the Union, and will be done if the friends of temperance remain firm and steadfast. It will take a long and stubborn fight, but it is worth the years it will require. Iowa and Kansas are undergoing their ordeal, but the right will triumph. It will take years for those states to get the giant evil under foot, but it can and will be done. Ohio can do it, and so can New York. All that is needed is the arousing of public sentiment, the better education of the people, firmness in demanding the right, and accepting nothing less than all we demand. The leaders of the Democracy will side with the liquor dealers as a matter of course, but the only result of it will be they will lose the best element of their party. No state is going to continue long under the domination of the Whiskey and Beer shops. Their reign is well nigh over.

"Prohibition, not License," is what we must inscribe upon our banners, and under that sign we shall conquer. Prohibition is the only effective way to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

THE NEXT HOUSE WILL FAVOR PROTECTION.

The *American Machinist* set itself to work recently to ascertain the tariff views of the new members-elect of the next House of Representatives. A circular letter was sent to each of the 138 new members, requesting a reply to the following questions:

First—Do you favor a protective tariff?
Second—Do you favor a general and substantial reduction of the present tariff?

Each member of the majority party was asked this additional question:

Third—Which do you most favor, the Randall or the Morrison view of the tariff?

Replies from 91 members are given in its last issue. Of these, five refer the inquirer to their party platforms. Of the 65 new Republican Representatives, replies have been received from 53, *all* of whom declare for a protective tariff, except two, who only mention adherence to the Chicago platform. It is safe enough, in view of the unanimity of these replies, to count the whole 65 in favor of protection. Mr. ROMEIS's answers were brief and to the point, as follows:

1st. Do you favor a protective tariff? I do. 2d. Do you favor a general and substantial reduction of the present tariff? I do not. I would say, however, that I am no monopolist. J. ROMEIS, Toledo.

Mr ROMEIS was elected as a protectionist, rather than as a Republican. There is a large segment of the Democracy of the Tenth Ohio district which is strongly opposed to the free trade vagaries of Mr. HURD, and it was their support of Mr. ROMEIS as the representative of protective ideas which so triumphantly elected him, and relegated HURD to the status of a private citizen.

Of the 73 new Democratic Representatives, replies have been received by the *Machinist* and are published from 38, or a majority of the number. Twelve of them are for protection, or for the RANDALL view as opposed to the MORRISON view of the tariff. The 12 are distributed as follows: Five from New York, 1 from Pennsylvania, 1 from Virginia, 1 from Florida, 1 from Alabama, 2 from Louisiana and 1 from Iowa. Thus 77 of the new members-elect may be relied upon to favor protection in tariff legislation. To these may safely be added 2 from Pennsylvania—1 yet to be elected to fill a vacancy caused by death, and the other, from whom no reply was received.

There were 89 members of the present House re-elected who voted to strike out the enacting clause of the MORRISON bill. One has died since the election. The summary then stands as follows: New members for protection, 79; re-elected members for protection, 88; total, 167. As the whole number of members in the House is 325, a majority of nine for protection is already assured. This is good news to every one who believes in legislation for the greatest good of the United States, and for the best interests of our industries, our workingmen, and our farmers. With this array of facts before it, the coming Congress can well see what the opinion of the vast majority of Americans is upon the tariff question, and will have no excuse for paralyzing business and keeping up the costly and profitless agitation on this question that characterized the present body.

A BEGGAR ON HORSEBACK.

The woes of the Democracy come thick and fast. They elected a nobody—a man outside the political life of the nation—to the highest office within the gift of the people; he knows apparently nothing of the magnates of his party, save those of his own state. The pilgrims who have gone to New York to urge the claims of some of the most prominent Democrats in the country to recognition in the make-up of the cabinet, are amazed to find that CLEVELAND gravely discusses the names of men hardly known beyond their own state lines, for the highest positions. And the worst of it is, they could not urge that the most suitable advisers for the new President would be men of national reputation; to do so would have been to insult CLEVELAND with his own obscurity and littleness. Western delegations were astounded to find that he regarded THURMAN as a decrepit old man, too feeble to be considered, and finesse had to be resorted to in order that the two men should meet. Everybody is all at sea as to whom CLEVELAND will finally choose. It seems that two offices will go to the South—the Postmaster General and Attorney General. Then comes the paralyzing rumor, which seems well-founded, that DAN. MANNING is to be Secretary of the Treasury—a New York pot-house politician, without any knowledge of finance, of the grave questions that are seeking settlement in our monetary and banking systems—without any qualification save the dubious one that he engineered the iniquitous game at Chicago by which CLEVELAND was foisted upon the Democratic party as its candidate. The selection of a cabinet will apparently be a happy-go-lucky affair. CLEVELAND is reticent, but it is the reticence of stupidity and ignorance. He is "going slow"—but it is because of his pig-headed idea that he is President-elect, and will do as he pleases. The men who held the colors of Democracy aloft in the national councils for a quarter of a century, are probably to be passed over that men of the capacity of ward strikers may be rewarded for engineering the votes of their states for CLEVELAND in the nominating convention. The cabinet will be a cabinet of nobodies, to advise a nobody. The Democratic party is in a fair way to realize the truth of the old proverb, "Put a beggar on horseback, and he will ride to the devil."

THE fall of the present year will be notable politically on account of the state elections in Ohio, New York and Virginia. Ohio will have a fierce contest, but a Republican triumph is as certain as it was last fall. The Coal-oil legislature is too heavy a load, and the party that elected that odorous body will have to take a back political seat—though the Democrats will fight bitterly to control the legislature, as that body will have the election of an United States senator to succeed Mr. SHERMAN. With a continuance of the wisdom shown in New York in the choice of Mr. EVARTS as senator, the Republicans can win in that state; but the contest will be as furious there as in Ohio. In Virginia, the question of the retirement of MAHONE from the Senate will be the keynote of the campaign, and we may look for bulldozing, tissue ballots—for any and every scheme of Bourbon fraud to defeat a fair election, in the attempt to down MAHONE. We have faith, however, that his sagacity will prove too much for the Bourbons, even if they have all the aid CLEVELAND's administration can give them.

DIRECT IMPORTATION.

At the January meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce, with 150 members present, there was a long discussion of a report and accompanying resolutions, which were finally adopted. One of the resolutions declared that the system of inland transportation, by which goods may be imported at a seaport and transported direct to an inland city and there entered at the local custom-house, was an injustice to seaport merchants and injurious to the revenue. The whole report was a part of an effort to create a monopoly at New York of the importing business, by working for the abolition of the amended "inland transportation act." At the February meeting of the Chamber (there being only about 18 persons present) the matter was reconsidered, and the resolution condemning the inland transportation system was defeated by a vote of 10 to 8. We give the figures to show that the majority of the Chamber is undoubtedly hostile to the act.

As the operations of this act are of undoubted benefit to Toledo, we will briefly recite its provisions. It declares that any imported merchandise, "except wine, distilled spirits, and perishable or explosive articles, or articles in bulk," imported at certain seaports named, is consigned to designated points inland where there are custom-houses, it shall be permissible for the collector, after examination, to see that merchandise corresponds with the invoice and manifest, to deliver the same to transportation companies (which are designated by the Secretary of the Treasury) for delivery at the port of destination. This merchandise is conveyed in sealed cars, and the transportation companies carrying such goods are required to give bond to the United States for the safe delivery thereof under the provisions of the statute. On arrival at its destination, it is placed in charge of the customs collector at that point, whose receipt therefor acts as a release of the transportation company from its bond to the government so far as that particular invoice is concerned.

This act places Toledo, or any of the inland cities containing custom-houses upon an equality with New York, Boston, or Philadelphia, as regards facilities for the direct importation of foreign goods. It is, in fact, cheaper for a Toledo merchant to import direct, under this act, as the brokers' fees and similar charges, which would have to be paid in New York, are thus avoided. The practice of direct importation is increasing here, as well as at other points, and the New York importers are taking alarm, as a case which occurred in this city not long since will show. A Toledo firm imported an invoice of cigars under this act, from Havana. The agent of a New York cigar-importing house, on ascertaining the fact, informed the firm that he could have sold them the same goods at a cheaper rate. This assertion, if true, means one of two things: either that there is fraud in the New York custom house, by which they could get goods through without paying the full duty, or that they were willing to sell goods to a Toledo firm just commencing to import on their own account at a positive loss, to aid in preventing the direct importation of foreign goods by firms in the interior. Recent disclosures at New York of enormous frauds in silk importation show that the former may have been the case; in fact, a prominent treasury official at Washington is quoted as saying that 90 per cent. of the Custom-house undervaluations in this country are made at New York. Undervaluations of ribbons and drugs have been so great as to virtually prevent importations by dealers inland. And there is no doubt that the great importing firms of that city would submit to considerable loss for a time if the practice of importing in bond could be broken up throughout the country.

However, the inland transportation system, under the facilities afforded by the amended act of 1880, has proved so beneficial, and hence so popular, that there is little fear that the New York merchants interested can bring sufficient influence to bear upon the government to repeal or injuriously modify the act, much as they would like to do so. It is an open secret that when the original act of 1870 went into operation, and during the years following, the secretary of the treasury was strongly opposed to the system; and so pronounced was this opposition that it even influenced the special agents of the department, who in their trips through the country constantly endeavored to pick flaws in its workings, with a view to building up a sentiment inimical to it, and in favor of its overthrow.

THE death of Gen. GORDON, who was stabbed on the morning of January 27, is confirmed. England will leave no effort unmade to avenge the murder of this hero, who had such a firm hold upon the affections of her people. It would not be strange if is was the finishing stroke to the downfall of the Gladstone ministry. His death will be regretted by the whole civilized world, especially when it has come under such circumstances, and has united with it the massacre of his brave followers. The details as now received are simply horrible. The Mahdi's army was given entrance into the city by treachery, and then came such acts as would only be possible by a horde of barbarians. The scenes rivaled the Bulgarian atrocities, and the only ray of comfort is that GORDON was killed in the beginning and without torture.

STATISTICS show that 20,000,000 of acres of land in the United States are held by foreigners, and the latter number less than 30 persons or organizations, which makes an average of three-quarters of a million acres owned by each. This is dangerous, because it concentrates such large tracts in the hands of so few that they cannot be cultivated properly, but only be rented out for grazing purposes. It is much better for the nation that the land shall be divided up into small farms to be owned and cultivated by one and the same person. Otherwise there is, as the country grows older, and the land grows more valuable, danger of the introduction of the landlord system which has been such an evil in the old country.

THE socialist papers in the country are doing a great deal by their hot-headed course to arouse antagonism to the claims of labor even in those whose sympathies have been in that direction. When one, as in New Haven, advises workingmen to throw aside "their tools and take to guns" it shows very plainly that it is working for notoriety and not for the interest of those whose cause it pretends to champion.

GRINDING THE FACES OF THE FARMERS.

The prosperity of the agricultural population of the Great West is at the mercy of the railway corporations. Blessed with abundant crops, the farmers are compelled to give from one-third to one-half their value to get them to a market. The profits of farming will not stand a tax of from 33⅓ to 50 per cent. The few who can do so are holding on to their grain, in the hope of finding relief in the future. The great mass, however, are compelled to sell—and when they have paid compulsory tribute to the railway sharks, the moiety remaining will not pay them more than the cost of the crop—leaving out of the question any return on the capital invested. Thousands of them have mortgages hanging over their lands, given to secure money borrowed to make improvements thereon. Money is worth 2 and 3 per cent. a month in m ny localities in Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. It is obvious that the farmers can not long stand such a condition of things. Ruin stares them in the face. The railroads with their soulless exactions stand between them and a fair return for their time, on the one hand. On the other, the Shylocks take advantage of their necessities, and extort a ruinous rate of interest for the loans which the farmers *must* have to tide them over until after the next harvest. Thus they are ground between the upper and the nether mill stones—the railroads and the money-lenders.

The only defense of their unreasonable freight tariff on grain that the railroads make is that they cannot afford to reduce rates. Railway men make exhibits of expenses and indebtedness, and glibly show that ruin would follow a reduction to a fair rate—one bearing some relation to the low prices of grain in Chicago. Their excuses are specious. If the water were squeezed out of their capital stock, the same set of figures would show truthfully what they are doing, and refute their own argument. When the capital stock is twice or thrice the entire cost of the line, side-tracks, depots, yards, shops and equipment—when the road is mortgaged twice over, and a desperate effort is made to pay enormous interest charges and declare dividends on the watered stock—no wonder that the figures show that extortionate rates are necessary in order to do so. The farmers must be shorn of all reward for a year's arduous toil, deprived of any return for their time and investment, and brought to the verge of financial ruin, that the money sharks in Wall street may not be cheated of their prey. Is there no remedy for this state of things?

The remedy is in the hands of our lawmakers, state and national. A state legislature has the power to control rates within its borders. It can lay a maximum rate beyond which the railways dare not go. And Congress has the express power delegated to it by the constitution, to regulate commerce between the states. The question is, which shall have the preference? Shall legislation be in the interests of the people or of Wall street?

Sor far as Congress is concerned, there is no chance of help from that body in the few days that yet remain before its session expires by constitutional limitation. A measure for this purpose was elaborated in each branch. The House passed its bill; the Senate substituted its own measure for the House bill, and the matter will go no further. The Democrats in Congress are too busy in preparing to grasp the offices to give the necessary time and thought to a measure so vital to the people of half-a-dozen great states. The interests of the farmers must wait, while the politicians squabble over the postoffices and other official plums.

There is but one avenue of relief left—the state legislatures. Let the farmers compel their legislators to hear them; let them demand the relief to which they are justly entitled. Let every man who dares to obey the dictates of the railway kings by opposing such legislation know that he thus damns his own political future. Let the legislature know that they are the servants of the people, not their masters. Let the call for justice be so strong that they must heed it. Let the matter be made the point on which shall hinge the favor of the voters at the next state election. Brand every man who interposes delays, who hinders the passage of a righteous law to regulate freight rates, who dares to vote against it, as the paid tool of a railway monopoly. Compel every man, Republican or Democrat, to show up in his true colors. This is not a party question. It is right against might—and the right must prevail.

THE prospect that there will be an extra session increases. Of the fourteen regular appropriation bills five have yet to be acted upon by the House, and those are the largest and most important of these important measures. They include the postoffice, legislative, executive and judicial, sundry civil, navy, fortifications and general deficiency, the three last named being still in progress of fomentation by the committee on Appropriations. One week ago Mr. RANDALL gave notice that all these bills should be in possession of the Senate before February 25, if an extra session was to be avoided, but since thio notice was given none but the postoffice bill has been pushed. There has been an unusual amount of time lost by bad management on the part of those in charge of the measure, but it can not be truthfully said that the Republicans have exhibited any disposition to obstruct its passage or to interpose any obstacles to the progress of any of these money bills. On the contrary the Republicans have always supported movements made to expedite these measures, and for whatever backwardness that may exist the Democrats are themselves to blame. With a majority of 70 in the House and with the Republicans anxious to assist them, it is supreme folly for Democrats to charge the responsibility for delay in the passage of appropriations rests with the minority.

THERE are many complaints from persons interested in pension cases over the rulings of the new Commissioner, Mr. CLARKE, which are said to be decidedly hostile to the soldiers who have claims pending. A number of his adverse decisions have been appealed to the secretary of the Interior, who has reversed them. CLARKE is said to ignore all former rulings, by previous commissioners, and it is openly charged that he is taking this course in order to curry favor with the Democrats, hoping to retain his place under CLEVELAND's administration. He should be promptly requested to resign by Pres. ARTHUR, and a man of justice and integrity appointed.

PROHIBITION IN IOWA.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has made a vigorous effort to crush out the Rum business, and has made progress. The following report of the Chief of Police of that city is instructive as showing the effect of Prohibition. The two statements show the number of arrests for the month of January, 1884, and the same month this year:

JANUARY, 1884.	
Larceny	10
Drunkenness	24
Vagrancy	18
Other offenses	21
Total for month	73

JANUARY, 1885.	
Larceny	4
Drunkenness	15
Disturbing peace	11
Selling whisky	19
Other offenses	17
Total for month	66

Commenting upon this showing, the paper goes on to say:

Since the wholesale war which has been instituted by the citizen's league begun there has been but one arrest for drunkenness since the 15th, and the city marshal is of the opinion that the arrests for this frequently committed crime will be extremely light during the next month.

"We'll have no use for the 'red wagon' in my opinion, in February," said Marshal Francis, "for the reason that about all the whisky-selling has been wiped out. The vigorous prosecutions to which the saloonists have been subjected has had this effect. There will be more money in the pockets of the women and children and a corresponding decrease in the police business. At this time last year we had seventeen men on the force; and now there are but thirteen officers, including myself. This is a saving to the city of at least $200 per month. In December, 1884, there were 82 arrests; so far this month, there have been but 66, and in February I am confident there will be a still less number. Since May last, the number of arrests have decreased fully 50 per cent. over the corresponding period in 1883."

Prohibition does prohibit, if its friends will have it so. All that Cedar Rapids has to do to kill Rum is to keep working vigorously, systematically, and with determination, sparing none. Do as that glorious man, NEAL DOW, did in Portland, and the end of Rum is near at hand. What has been done in Portland and Cedar Rapids can be done everywhere.

OUR NEW SERIAL.

"The Daughter of the Sun; A Tale of the Mexican Border."

In the issue of March 5 will be commenced, under the above title, a new and powerful serial written expressly for the BLADE. From the initial chapters, now in our possession, we feel justified in saying that this will be one of the most fascinating and popular stories that has ever appeared in our columns. It is a tale of love and thrilling adventure among the Indians on the Mexican border, in the little-known southwestern section of our country. Amid the wild scenes, described with an intensity that holds the reader breathless with excitement, the love story is deftly intertwined, and there can be no sweeter heroine in fiction than the beautiful "Daughter of the Sun." The successive trials through which she passes show her noble womanhood in the brightest light, and endears her to the hearts of all who read the story as if she were indeed a living, breathing reality.

The tone of the narrative is pure and elevated. It is one to be read aloud in the family circle, and we are sure of the gratitude of every member of the great BLADE family for its presentation.

Tell your neighbors and friends about it and send us lists of their names that we may mail to them specimen copies of the BLADE of March 5, containing the opening chapters of this magnificent serial. Ask them to subscribe to the best and most widely read family paper in America.

THERE is a lack of general knowledge as to the exact status of Ireland as a part of the "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland," and an erroneous impression seems to have been created by the ravings of the Irish revolutionists and their sympathizers that Ireland has no adequate representation in the British Parliament. We find the following concise statements of the facts in an exchange, which also shows the progress of reform of late years in Irish affairs:

Ireland is represented in the British Parliament by 28 representative Peers and 105 Commoners. Of the latter, 64 represent the counties, 2 the university, 12 the cities and towns of Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Waterford, Belfast and Galway, and 27 the boroughs. [This in 1874.] In 1869 the Irish Church Establishment (Protestant) was abandoned as a concession. Popular changes were made in the land statutes in 1870, but none of the reforms allayed agitation. In 1874 the "Obstructionists" obtained a strong representation in the British parliament. Bad seasons and distress among the peasantry (1878-1880) added force to the Land League, and agrarian outrages increased to an alarming extent on the expiration of the peace preservation act, on the rejection by the lords of a bill temporarily limiting evictions. In 1881 a coercive act was passed, and was immediately followed by a land act of large scope. Mr. Gladstone's recent franchise extension will enfranchise about half a million Irishmen.

A CHICAGO exchange says that Capt. MORENO, who broke up the Italian padroni system, by means of which little children and beggars were shipped from Italy to this country, says there exists another abuse that is almost as bad. The padroni now bring thousands of adults to America, keep them in something like bondage, and hire them out to contractors in various places. According to the captain's figures there are now 80,000 of these men in the United States, receiving from the padroni about 25 cents a day, but netting their owners a handsome profit on each day's work. While the practice may be objected to on the ground of humanity, here in America we should concern ourselves principally with the effect which this most servile labor has upon our own workingmen. Capt. MORENO is laboring for the benefit of the Italians. He would prevent their importation because he believes they are the victims of designing men. Congress should take action in the matter for the benefit of American laborers, who ought not to be subjected to any such competition. A bill has already passed the House, and is now under consideration in the Senate with this end in view. It is entitled, "An act to prohibit the importation and emigration of foreigners and aliens under contract or agreement to perform labor in the United States, its Territories, and the District of Columbia." Sen. INGALLS, in his remarks favoring the bill, expressed exactly the problem which now confronts the United States. He thinks "We are now called upon to decide whether every man, woman and child on the face of the earth, no matter in what condition of physical or intellectual development or moral standing, has a natural right to come to the United States and do and act as he pleases to the detriment of those already here."

CURRENT EVENTS.

Miss Eva Mackay, daughter of the bonanza king, was married in Paris to Don Ferdinand Julien Colonna, prince of Galatro. The nuptial ceremony, which was private, was followed by a magnificent bridal reception. ——Fresno, Cal., veterans, blue and gray, passed resolutions recently in favor of placing Gen. Grant on the retired list and received a letter of acknowledgment from the general. ——It was voted by the state board of Agriculture at Springfield, Ill., to hold the next state fair in Chicago. ——Fire destroyed the entire west side of the public square at Princeton, Mo. The loss is estimated at $75,000. ——By an explosion of gas in a colliery at Westville, Nova Scotia, Tuesday night, thirteen miners at work there were killed and others injured. ——A fresh complication in the Storey will case has come to light in the shape of the first Mrs. Storey, who was divorced from the deceased journalist in 1867. She is coming to Chicago to file a bill to set aside the decree of alimony awarded her a quarter of a century ago, with a view to obtaining instead her "dower" out of the estate. ——The western nail manufacturers have advanced prices from $2.15 to $2.20 a keg. They claim that the cost of making is $2.28 a keg. There is evidently a need for a further advance or a reduction on cost or claims. ——During March civil service examinations will be held at Nashville, Memphis, Little Rock, New Oreans, and Jackson, Miss. ——A letter written by the attorney general has been submitted to Congress setting forth the desirability of securing the postal records of the Confederacy for use in the settling of claims. ——The trial of Gen. Swaim has been temporarily suspended. ——The Indian appropriation bill as reported to the Senate increases the House bill $152,000. ——France evidently has a purpose in seeking to obtain Formosa from China. The bituminous coal fields of the island are almost inexhaustible, and recently petroleum has been discovered within 20 miles of Kelung. ——It was decided by the House committee on Foreign Affairs, to which were referred resolutions in regard to the recent dynamite explosions in London, that it was beneath the dignity of the House of Representatives to assume that American citizens had had anything to do with the crimes in question. ——Chas. Francis Adams, jr., president of the Union Pacific railway, informs Sec. Teller that that company is ready to pay its annual settlement as required by law whenever the department will specify the amount due. ——The House has passed a bill providing for the sale of 8,014 acres of land in Kansas and Nebraska, the Sac and Fox Indian reservation. ——A New York laborer named Martell claims the Dorian estate at Montreal, worth $1,000,000. ——Lake Ontario is frozen from shore to shore, an unprecedented state of things. So says a Hamilton, Ont., dispatch. ——The Chinese government will make the expulsion of Chinese from Eureka, Cal., a few days ago, an international matter and claim indemnity. ——In Hampton county, S. C., good land, which rented for $2.65 a year ago, can be obtained for 35 cents an acre this year, with very few renters. The fall is caused by the scarcity of labor, and in many sections land can be obtained for payment of taxes. ——Central Pacific net earnings for 1884, $6,470,710.16. ——Dr. William Warring, prominent citizen of Richmond, Ind., is dead. ——Rev. R. Heber Newton has been admonished by Bishop Potter. ——The Democrats of the Indiana Senate passed a sweeping civil rights bill, as a bid for colored votes, nine-tenths of them believing it to be unconstitutional, and trusting to the supreme court to kill it. ——The matter of admitting colored men to practice at the Maryland bar is receiving much attention in Baltimore. ——Ex-Mayor Edson, of New York, was sentenced to jail for contempt of court, in refusing to obey an injunction. ——A secret service agent of the Mexican revenue department was ducked, tarred and feathered for attempting to seize the limited tobacco stock of a poor tradesman. ——Mrs. Weldon, who ran away from her husband to live with the composer Gounod, has withdrawn her suit brought in the London courts against her husband for $100,000 alimony. ——An escaped lunatic from Seneca Falls, N. Y., who explained how he proposed to assassinate Gov. Cleveland, was arrested in St. Louis. ——Nineteen men were imprisoned by an explosion in a colliery at Westville, Nova Scotia. Seven were rescued and three dead bodies found. ——Francis A. Drexel, the Philadelphia banker, died Sunday. His estate is estimated at over $20,000,000. ——It is announced that the strike in the Hocking Valley is ended, after having continued nine months. ——The assignee of Archbishop Purcess has in hand a balance of about $180,000. ——A number of Chicago Socialists are on missionary tours through Ohio and Illinois. ——Among the Cabinet-builders at Washington, Bayard, Garland and Lamar are agreed upon as having been selected to fill the leading positions in Cleveland's council. ——The bank clearings of the principal cities of the United States last week amounted to $716,698,111, a decrease of $27,335,648 as compared with the corresponding week of 1884. The decrease is attributed in large part to the snow blockade. ——It is stated that the findings of the court-martial which tried Judge Advocate Gen. Swaim will recommend his reduction from brigadier-general to major, the lowest position in the judge-advocate's bureau, and forfeiture of all pay and allowances for two years. ——There are at the present time 5,000 unemployed men in Buffalo, and the poor authorities report more than the usual distress. ——Rev. Hugh O'Neill, pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic church, Indianapolis, has been forced to resign by Bishop Chatard on account of having given support to Mr. Blaine last fall. His congregation passed resolutions unanimously disapproving of the action of the bishop. ——England's death rate has decreased during the present century from forty in a thousand to twenty in a thousand. This is attributed to the progress of sanitary science. ——It is reported that a woman in the City of Mexico gave birth to seven children in one day. All the children died. ——A female temperance crusade has broken out in St. Paris, O., under the leadership of Mrs. Moore, a Cincinnati evangelist. ——The House of Representatives passed the bill to increase the pension of Gen. Thomas' widow to $2,000 a year and defeated the bill to place Gen. Grant on the retired list. ——Maud S. will be trained next summer at Belmont Park, near Philadelphia, and will be taken there as soon as the weather will admit. ——Thomas Buford, a noted Kentucky criminal, died in the Central Insane asylum at Anchorage, Ky. ——Robert Martin, a veteran of three wars, was found dead in a log cabin at Glenwood, Ind. ——The imports of general merchandise at the port of New York for week ended February 13, were $4,156,000. ——The second annual report of the Civil Service commission has been transmitted by the President to Congress. The comprehensive document says, among other things, that the civil service law has been found practicable and effective. During the year persons have been examined from every state and territory, except Idaho. One hundred and sixty-two examinations have been held, and 6,337 persons examined, of whom 5,525 were males and 822 females. Of those examined 4,141 passed at a grade showing them competent for public service, and 2,306 failed. ——Massachusetts stands at the head of the Congregationalists in the United States as to numbers, having 532 churches, with 90,350 members and 641 ministers. ——An ancient house, burned at Hanover, N. H., week before last, had the shingles on it which were laid on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill. This is told as a fact. ——It appears that the wealth of England has doubled since 1845, that of France since 1855, and that of the United States since 1864—our wealth doubling in twenty years of protective tariff and Republican policy, while free trade England needed 40 years to make a like increase.

Correspondence.

Descriptive Letters from Various Points.

We give below, in condensed form, letters from various friends, giving information of interest to those who would like to change their present locations and find new homes:

J. Reckhold, surveyor of Spokane county, Wyoming:

I see an inquiry in regard to government land in Wyoming. There are several thousand acres of good land in the northern part of this county, and in the eastern part of Stevens county near the newly discovered mines of Chewelah, and also a large amount of prairie land in the southwest portion of Lincoln and Douglas counties.

Subscriber, South Haven, Kan.:

The little town of South Haven, Kansas, is situated three miles north of the territory line, on a branch of the K., C., L. & S., known as the Hunnewell branch, which traverses one of the most fertile spots of central southern Kansas. Although in its infancy, it bids fair to be, in the near future, a town of considerable size and importance. It may be that I am saying too much for an East Tennesseean, but I can't help it, for in these hills one has a right to express his opinion on all things without being molested or making any one afraid of him, as it is Republican, teeth and toe-nails, especially the portion that I came from, for in our voting precinct there were 105 votes cast and only three of that number were Democratic. So I am out here in a powerful big clearing void of trees and hills, where stumps and shin-breaking roots never cause one to swear and violate his duty to his Maker, as many of you who have lived in timbered countries know. Aside from all this, we have a fine country, only partially settled, with thousands of acres of teeming grass inviting those destitute of homes hither, giving them health, wealth and fat pocketbooks, if they will only come and partake of its liberality.

A. R., Beadle Co., Dakota:

In your issue of January 28, I read an inquiry from West Virginia for a durable place to settle for old soldiers. To all I would say, come to Dakota. I have lived here in Beadle county for three years, and can truly say there is no better land west of the Mississippi than here in the James river valley. Wheat averages from 25 to 40 bushels per acre, oats from 50 to 75, barley from 40 to 50. All kinds of root crops and vegetables can not be excelled. We have good society, schools and churches, good railroad facilities and good markets. I believe a great many people east are afraid of the cold winters. My children commenced going to school in October; they have half a mile to go, and have not lost one day yet. I lived in Michigan 20 years, and the winters are not nearly so disagreeable here as there. There is no government land in this county. You can buy deeded land with improvements, at from $6 to $10 per acre. There are some tree claim relinquishments that can be bought from $25 to $500 per quarter section. Land will double in value within the next two years. I am a farmer, not a land shark.

Henry Thompson, Pearlette, Ford Co., Kan.:

Tell the old soldiers of West Virginia that this is a good country, healthy, good soil, good people, plenty of government land for homesteads, and good soft water. Old soldiers are plenty and a hearty welcome will be extended to more. I am an old soldier myself. There is room for a large colony ten or fifteen miles from here and within 15 to 40 miles of the Santa Fe railroad.

J. Tat, Elk Co., Kan.:

In a recent copy of the BLADE I noticed a letter descriptive of Nebraska, but there was a damper on it in a note saying that some such letters were written by real estate agents. Having spent several months of the past summer in Saunders, Butler and Polk counties, I know something of the country. We were a party from Central Ohio, and were traveling salesmen. If farmers have any fault to find with the country or its crops, they invariably tell an agent of it. We heard no complaint, save of a hail storm that occurred the year previous. The crops were further advanced than in the same latitude in Ohio. The soil is very rich and deep. There is no rock near the surface. Wells average from 40 to 60 feet in depth. The water obtained is very cold and pure. The climate in most respects is like that of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Corn and wheat are the chief agricultural products. Nearly all kinds of vegetables, and many varieties of fruit, do well. The winters are too severe for peach growing. The raising of cattle and hogs pays extremely well. Wheat sold for 45 cents per bushel in September. Farm horses are worth from $75 to $150 each. Good land, unimproved, sells at from $8 to $15 per acre. Well improved farms, $15 to $40 per acre. Money costs from 2 to 3 per cent. per month. Schools and churches are numerous and well supported. The people are principally from Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois. They are thriving, industrious and well educated. Railroads are becoming numerous. There is no timber, save that planted by the settlers, but nearly every farm has a grove of thrifty young trees. It is a beautiful country, and its people are as sociable and refined as any I have ever met.

The editorial note was not intended as a "damper," but merely to apologize for not giving the full address. We would publish no letter that we thought misleading, nor one intended to advertise a land agent. If land agents want to reach the BLADE's readers, they must put their advertisements in the proper columns, and pay for them.

E. O., Billings, Missouri:

About eight years ago I moved from New York to Southwest Missouri. I was told that I would not be safe here; that nobody except rebel Democrats lived here. I found it to the contrary—that a majority were Republicans. Since that time many changes have taken place. A large immigration has come, and is still coming, composed of all political faiths, which have opened up fertile farms and built churches and school-houses, yet Republican principles predominate. At Billings (a town named in honor of Frederick Billings, of Woodstock, Vt.) we have a good-working temperance band. A Woman's Christian Temperance union is soon to be organized. Although many have come from the North and East, yet there is room. This country seems to be suited to mixed farming, and is destined to be the most populous portion of the state, and I hope good principles will continue to predominate.

A Dakota editor writes:

Now that many persons thrown out of employment in the manufacturing districts are contemplating emigration westward, I deem it but a work of benevolence to direct their attention to the cheap homes afforded in Dakota. Though most of the best government land is taken up, some of those who hoped to make a fortune in a year by getting a quarter section on which a city should spring up, have become disgusted at making wealth slowly, and are selling out their claims at prices that do not return them anything for the time they spent "holding them down," as the phrase goes. If those who have saved a few hundred dollars during the good times were here, anywhere along any of the railway lines, or in the newly settled portions of the territory, they could buy the lands of the impatient outright, as cheaply as they could "hold down" claims on government land. It wouldn't be advisable for any one to think of coming to this country without he had a few hundred dollars of ready cash; enough to buy out a discontented man and get a farming outfit. Most of these lands are mortgaged for $250 to $300, according to the improvements the settlers have made, and these loans run five years from the date they were made. I know of two such quarter sections that have been sold lately at about $50 more than the value of the improvements on them. They generally have had about five acres broken and cropped one or two seasons, when the settler becomes impatient and wants to move.

"Jyahawker," Bridgeport, Kan.:

Every little while I see accounts about Kansas in the papers, some of which are true and some are not, but in the BLADE a letter spoke of the winters here being short, mild and dry. If you allow me, I will correct this mistake by the experience of three winters. The cold weather of 1882-3 commenced January 7; in 1883-4 the cold wave struck the Neosho valley Christmas night, and lasted, with but very little interruption, till March 2; in 1884-5 it turned cold in the middle of December, and it is cold yet. The lowest record this winter was 23° below. Of course we had a few nice days, but they were few and far apart. The ice in the Smoky river here is a foot thick. If nine weeks of freezing weather is called short, or if an average of 3° below is considered mild, I will acknowledge myself beaten. Of course where everything is frozen up, it is bound to be dry. I left Northern Indiana to escape the cold winters, but I missed it badly. As for the summers, the letter was correct; they are long, and temperate is no name for it, for we threshed when the thermometer was 110° in the shade. Still I like Kansas better than any state of the Union.

How Some People Live in Florida.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

Under the above heading in your issue of January 8, J. F. Bartholf, of Sarasota, Fla., draws a repulsive picture of Southern life. This class of people is found everywhere in the South. They are called "poor whites" in Virginia, and "crackers" in Florida. Mr. B. does not tell your readers that these people are born and bred in poverty and shiftlessness; and that their character has become molded through a long line of inglorious ancestry. But such is the fact; and a cracker would be as lonesome, in a civilized community, as a Mormon would be with one wife. They are lazy, shiftless, dirty and half civilized from choice, and avoid all enterprise as though it were the plague. They did some fighting, and a great deal of running for the Confederacy, and the war is the great event from which they date all minor occurrences. The venom of secession is in them yet, and, given the opportunity, they would cut a Yankee's throat as quick to-day as they would in 1865. They are without doubt the most thriftless, and densely ignorant people in America. They know about as much about the North, and the government under which they live, as does El Mahdi of the British empire.

This may be "*life*" in Manatee county; but the Northern settler finds in other parts of Florida a better state of society and civilization than can be found in many parts of the West.

The "frontier," in Florida, will soon be crowded into the Gulf; and if any reader of the BLADE had thought of settling there, don't let Mr. J. Bartholf's "cracker" picture scare you away.

L. E. HOOKER,
So. Edmeston, N. Y.

We have just received another letter from our Sarasota correspondent. We find that his name has been misspelled in the BLADE. Instead of "J. F. Bishop" it should be "J. F. Bartholf." His address is Manatee, Fla. We give his letter here, although it is addressed to the CAMP FIRE:

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

Many of the contributions to the CAMP FIRE are very interesting, but some of them, it has occurred to me, tend to mislead the public as to the true causes of existing public sentiment down South. I am from New York, served the Union cause throughout the war, and was discharged a captain of colored troops, and settled South. True to conviction and principle, as I understand it, I was and ever have been a Republican. For this I always voted the Republican ticket, and opposed Democracy, and why? Because with me it seemed like keeping up the fight. Much, however, as I wished to "bury the hatchet," still it seemed to me that the white people of the South, the Democracy, were as rebellious as ever, and I had about come to the conclusion that they were not sincere in their professions of allegiance to the Union, and only awaited the opportunity to again manifest their treasonable designs. But at length I became convinced, from personal observation and intimate acquaintance that there was a great and most exasperating cause at the bottom of all this for the continuance of disloyal sentiment towards their government and country, and that cause was negro rule. It is all very well for Republicans of the North, where the negro vote is comparatively nothing, to argue and advocate political equality, but if, as in a large portion of the South, the negroes in all their depravity and ignorance, outnumbered the whites, and possessed the power by sheer votes to monopolize all the powers of government, I do not believe their Republicanism would amount to much—and further, as in the South, I believe their sentiments of loyalty towards a government that subjected them to such a wrong, injustice and indignity, would undergo a very severe test. I say this from personal observation and acquaintance extending through a long period of years, during which time I have known many Northern men, Republicans, who coming South, could not consistently with their views of what was best to promote the public welfare, affiliate with the Republican party as they found it here. True, on the other hand they were not always satisfied with Democracy. There was so much of the old Bourbon spirit of slave-holding and secession proclivities manifest in it, and such an apparent desire to arrogate to a favored few the power to control and dictate to the masses of the people. Such evidence of a spirit to advance the interests of the few at the sacrifice of those of the mass of the people, that Democracy in the South did not suit them, and the result is many are left "out in the cold at sea," as it were politically.

Without one particle of prejudice towards the colored race (they are all God's creatures and can't help their color) I must therefore say in all candor and justice towards the Southern people that it has been the efforts that have been so persistently made to elevate the negroes in power over them, that have kept alive and strengthened their disloyal sentiments, and further that it is my honest opinion that the peace and prosperity of the country, the perpetuation of this great Union, the interests of the Republican party, and the welfare of the colored people require, that such efforts be discontinued, at least until the colored people become more generally educated and experienced, and time has erased and removed the prejudices born of slavery, now existing in the minds of the people, not only in the South but in the North. Respectfully,

Manatee, Fla. J. F. BARTHOLF.

SHILOH NOT A SURPRISE.

What an Illinois Veteran Has to Say in Defense of Grant's Article in the Century.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

The letter of George W. Palmer, copied into the BLADE from the Madison *Courier*, with the letter of Nagal and W. A. McMillan, of Toledo, have emboldened me to write on two of those disputed points.

First, it is surprising that Comrade Palmer never knew of Gen. Halleck's suspending Gen. Grant from command, before he read the General's article in the *Century Magazine*, though the information which he gives is important as a side light in the history of events then transpiring, as is Comrade McMillan. What I want to say is with reference to a single sentence of Grant's letter to Gen. Halleck, April 5, 1862: "I have scarcely the faintest idea of an attack (a general one) being made; but if it should occur, I will be prepared for it." This sentence, taken from its proper connection, makes it hard for the great mass of readers to see anything but a complete surprise to Grant, and a total lack of care on his part to ascertain whether the enemy were approaching his lines, and if they were, he failed to make any preparation for it, as he said he would.

Since the defeat of Gen. Lew Wallace's cavalry on March 16, 1862, he had been on the alert to repay them in kind. On April 2 he had approached Purdy, Tenn., with a brigade, and became impressed that at that place there was at least 12,000 troops, and as many more at Bethel, four miles further back. He notified Grant of this, and that it was his opinion that they meditated a descent on Crump's Landing. Grant, from his actions, evidently felt that if an attack was to be made, in all probability it would be made on Pittsburg Landing. Sherman was advised to, and did, send Col. Smith's regiment of infantry, from Stewart's brigade, up Lick Creek, to surround a noted rebel's place (named Greese) where it was believed that rebel scouts and spies, when startled, or cut off from their commands, fled for shelter and protection. This force started after dark on April 2, to carry out its instructions.

The same night, Col. Taylor was ordered to take every man of his regiment that he could mount and go on the road six miles west, then turn to the southeast and chase any rebel pickets, scouts or spies to Greese's, where they would be picked up by Smith's regiment. Col. Taylor took one citizen, a doctor, and a rebel cavalry scout. These movements lasted until daylight Thursday, April 3. Sherman and Grant were not satisfied, so Col. Buckland, in command of Sherman's second brigade, was instructed to take his brigade, by way of drill and instruction, three miles to the front, then send skirmishers two miles to the right and left to ascertain if there was any considerable force approaching from Corinth, by way of Monterey. This consumed all of April 3, and no sign of a rebel movement in force was discovered. On the 4th Lew Wallace wrote that his former report, that a strong rebel force was at Purdy and Bethel, was confirmed, and the same day the rebels moved two regiments of infantry, one of cavalry and a battery of field artillery to the Mickey house. The artillery and infantry halted there, but the cavalry came to Gen. Meek's lane, while a company came on and captured a Federal picket post. This looked as if Lew Wallace's theory was correct, that this force at the Mickey house was a ruse to alarm and hold our forces at Pittsburg Landing, while a heavy force fell on Lew Wallace and demolished him. In view of these facts, Gen. Grant ordered Gen. W. H. L. Wallace to send Gen. Lew Wallace two batteries of artillery, and to hold his division in readiness to move to the support of Lew Wallace if he should be attacked. Sherman was ordered to go to Wallace's support, if attacked, and to double his pickets and put them on their guard.

Gen. Lew Wallace put his whole division in line of battle of Saturday, the 5th, at Adamsville, but no enemy appeared. On Saturday afternoon, Gen. Prentiss sent Col. Moore, in command of the 21st Missouri, three miles out on the Corinth road, via Monterey, to see if there were any signs of an enemy. He returned to camp at 7 o'clock p. m., and reported no signs of an enemy in force. Col. Moore's reconnoissance covered the ground that William Preston Johnston and Gen. Thomas Jordan say the rebels came into line of battle on, about 4 p. m. It is a notable fact that rebel time, as noted by them at that battle, is one hour slower than that of the Federal officers; so that it may be that as Moore was leaving, they might have been approaching, but the probabilities are, as they are indefinite as to time, about half-past 4 p. m. according to our time it would be half-past 5 p. m., so that when their advance appeared, Moore had retraced his steps a mile. After 9 o'clock p. m. Saturday night, Prentiss heard that a rebel force had gone into camp a mile south of his picket line. Maj. Powell, of the 25th Missouri, was dispatched with about 450 men, after midnight, to find and attack them. He came upon the rebel advance and attacked them Sunday morning, April 6, at 5 o'clock. After fighting there for an hour he drove them back upon their main line. He was reinforced and held them in check so that they did not reach Prentiss's and Sherman's lines until 8 a. m. It seems to me that these facts justify Grant's letter, and that he took every precaution to be prepared, and the divisions were not surprised after three hours fighting in their front.

T. J. BRYANT,
Late Capt. Co. D, 14th Illinois.
Pana, Ill.

A Letter from South-Central Tennessee.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

I see in the BLADE letters from East Tennessee, and I think it will be doing the citizens of Middle Tennessee an injustice if our portion of the state is not represented. We have no abrupt mountains, neither have we any swamps. The land is rolling enough, and the altitude of a height to make it a healthy and desirable place to live. The climate cannot be excelled; it is just cold enough to make a person vigorous and healthy, and, also, make our land productive. We have only had two cold spells this winter, and then the mercury did not reach zero. Farmers are now plowing for oats and preparing to make garden. Potatoes will lie in the ground here all winter, undug, and come up in the spring. The turtle-dove, meadowlark, bluejay, robin, wren and redbirds remain here all winter. We have wild and tame fruit in abundance. Our streams are clear and pure, the bottom can be seen at a depth of ten to fifteen feet. They contain plenty of fish, and our timber furnishes plenty of game; such as deer, turkeys, rabbits, squirrels, quails, etc. This county, Lawrence, is situated near the south central part of the state, the southern boundary being Alabama. The population being about 15,000, and all stand ready to welcome emigration, and more especially from the Northern and Eastern states. We want those who have push and energy, for that is what the South needs. Our portion of the county contains about one half Northern people. We have fair churches and schools. There are five cotton and woolen factories, as many grist mills, numerous saw-mills and one furnace. Iron ore is abundant, and second to none in the United States. Our timber is poplar, white, red, post and burr oak, chestnut, hickory, some sugar and cherry and several other kinds of less value. Timber land is worth from $1 to $3, and improved land from $3 to $15 per acre. Some of this same land was worth $100 per acre before the war, and there is nothing to hinder it from being worth the same again. We have pure free stone water and chalybeate springs which bring a great many people here from the cities for their health during the summer months. Hay can be grown successfully, and is worth $10 to $15 per ton. I am no land agent, but I am desirous of seeing people who want to make their homes in a mild, healthy climate settle among us. I will give all the information I can by letter, if stamps are enclosed to pay for stationery and postage.

T. J. COATE.
Henryville, Tenn.

Elsewhere in this issue of the BLADE will be found the 39th annual statement of the solid old Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance company, to which attention is invited. This statement shows the sound basis on which the business is done, and is an assurance to all who insure their lives for the benefit of their wives and children, that the safe and conservative policy for which this company is distinguished, render it especially worthy of the confidence of the public.

PROHIBITION UTTERANCES.

What the Blade's Readers Have to Say on Our Plan.

We continue giving in brief the opinions of readers upon Prohibition:

L. S. Carpenter, Greeley, Colo.:

Although somewhat remote from the great East, yet we feel a deep interest in the welfare of our Nation. I am in hearty accord with the BLADE's plan of prohibition. By no means did I vote for St. John. Believing as I do that temperance can have no hope of success without the Republican vote, at this period of our nation's progress, we owe it as a duty to stand by the party that has put itself on record as opposed to oppression in every form, and in favor of equal rights in all things.

A. W. C., Hamburg, Ark.:

I am always glad to receive the dear old BLADE, and more so since it has been working for prohibition. We are having prohibition in this (Ashley) county, having voted license out by a large majority the second time. Of course there is a great deal of whisky brought into the county, as some persons will have it whenever it can be found, as it is in the county north of this. The parish south of this, in Louisiana, voted out license at the last election. So you see we are at work here.

From an Illinois friend:

For one I have been much interested in the BLADE's plan to pulverize the Rum Power, and have been pleased to see indications of temperance people all over the country taking hold of the work in the same manner. When all temperance people work on the same plan their blows will tell. Everything, therefore, that looks to the union of plan in the workers for temperance is a matter of interest. A matter has occurred in Illinois that bids fair to bring many recruits to the plan the BLADE has so ably and zealously presented. The ladies of the Woman's Christain Temperance union, of Illinois, have sent out circulars to the local unions telling them to work with a will for woman suffrage for the next two months. Such an order produced surprise and even dismay. The ladies organized to work for temperance not woman suffrage. One local union, at Reno, Ill., has unanimously withdrawn from the association, and if the way is open will unite with the National league organized at Boston. All the ladies of this state will not be run off after St. John, woman suffrage and other things for which the W. C. T. U. was not organized. It would not be astonishing to see the temperance workers extensively organized in this state, in the near future. The circulars sent out show a carefully arranged plan and call for great activity and urge strongly for money. But when the local unions begin to back out by unanimous votes leaders will consider.

Emory Sprague, Hillhouse (no state), is still mixed up in his mind. He can't understand why prohibition should not be fought for as a party issue. If he will consider a little he will agree that a third party has never accomplished anything in the way of prohibitory legislation. The Prohibition party has never elected a majority of a state legislature. People are either Democrats or Republicans. There are thousands of men in both parties who favor prohibition, but they will *not* leave the Democratic party, or the Republican party, to vote for it with a third party. Then, for either of these two parties to take up prohibition, insures its defeat, in many states. The prohibitionist in the Republican party will not vote the Democratic ticket to carry prohibition, no more than they will leave their own party to vote with the third party. The Democrats who favor prohibition will not vote the Republican ticket to secure prohibition. But, if it is kept out of party politics, it can be carried, on the BLADE's plan. That is the reason we proposed the plan. It doesn't antagonize the Prohibition party, or any other party. It is feasible, and will prove itself successful.

John Gard, Keiseyville (no state):

I will present one remedy that is dead sure to stop the sale of body-rot. I think you will agree with me on this: Let all hands stop drinking it. That would beat a two-thirds vote for Prohibition.

John D. Snell, Hartville, Mo.:

I fully agree with the BLADE's plan of pulverizing the Rum Power. I am a Prohibitionist in the strongest sense of the word. I believe the time is not very far distant that we will triumph, but we must "not get weary in well doing, for in due time we shall reap, if we faint not." The greatest work before the American people is to "Pulverize the Rum Power."

Peter Walter, Tipton, Iowa:

In order to make my inkling on temperance in accordance with your special orders of the day, I will give my motto only, with a few comments: "Right will make might, Right is right, and Right will wrong no man." Now if I had only the limited means of Saul, the King, in his bitterest of agonies I would call up in these latter days Father Abraham, who once said to senators Davis and Wade: "I could feel as though I were damned in time and in eternity, if I were to call back the backs of those four millions of slaves under the lash of their masters." Now, it is with me only a matter of time and preparation to meet the emergency, either in or out side of political lines just in whatever attitude or position the opposition may think fit and proper to put it, I am ready to fight it to the hilt, as I did non-extension of slavery into the territories, for Abraham Lincoln and my country.

A. C. Kile, Muscatine, Iowa:

In this city, in the past three years, there have been fourteen deaths caused by whisky, nine of them men of families. Does any one think for a moment that a few paltry dollars would repay the loss to those nine widows and their orphan children? Poverty, cold, hunger, separation, degradation and starvation; and very few to sympathize with the drunkard's widow and orphan children. How much money, in dollars and cents, this city should receive for the right to kill those fourteen men, and what those nine widows and their orphan children should have, if license is to be the rule?

M., Haughton, Iowa:

I have been reading the BLADE's plan to "pulverize the rum power," with great interest and like it very much. Although the Republicans in this vicinity saw, with contempt, good Christian people leave their ranks to join the St. John party, we are willing to let bygones be bygones and work in the proper direction in the future. Judging from what I have heard, I think J. P. St. John's position in regard to secret orders gained him more votes than his position to the liquor traffic. These poor, deluded people will have for long years of Democratic rule to consider their error, at the end of which time we hope to see them fall into rank with renewed energy, and try to redeem the worse than lost time. When we hope thus we will not hope in vain, as many of them are ready even now, and anxious for the co-operation of the good old Republican party. I wish the BLADE great success. Its circulation should be more than doubled, as I think it is the bitterest enemy the demon rum has ever met with.

F., Cedar Vale, Kan.:

Whether St. John did, or did not do right is of no practical moment to us. If we mean to make war let us not waste our time in discussing past campaigns or dead issues. "They are the best patriots who can best work and best agree." That Prohibition in the state of Kansas is not a perfect success may be admitted; but the same may be said of every law on the statute books where an attempt has been made to legislate on questions of public morals and decency. The senseless cry of "sumptuary legislation" is very natural, coming from where it does. Did ever a drop of truth reach the bottomless pit without making some serpent wriggle and hiss? I see that the idea of making drunkenness ground for disfranchisement of citizens and disqualification of officers, is advanced. It would take a long time to reach that stage of progress; and what we want is practical measures. Let drunkenness be *prima facie* evidence of unlawful sales, and require persons convicted to answer all questions relating to where, how, of whom, and with whom they associated in the purchase of liquors, committing to jail for failure, or refusal to answer, at the expense of the persons committed, until answers were made, would help amazingly. Every scamp who is making money at the expense of public morals and decency may howl "sumptuary legislation" until he is hoarse, no such bug-a-boo ought to deter those who hold in their hearts the true interests of humanity. We cannot afford to allow the wind of a few beer barrels to shape the legislation of America in the interest of, and to the will of the devil.

Liquor License.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

The BLADE's plan for crushing the rum traffic, is the only true plan. It should always be made a moral issue and never a political issue, for reasons before given by the BLADE. I am astonished to find men in almost every locality in our land voting to license this damnable curse of rum selling—men whose names are upon the church books, thereby professing to be followers of the meek and lowly Jesus. These same professors go to the sanctuary and say, "Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name," and they go to their respective voting places and vote that his name may not be hallowed; for, by licensing the devil's workshop, they are most assuredly hallowing the name of satan. The next sentence they utter is, "Thy Kingdom come;" and then go to the polls and vote that it shall *not* come, thereby assisting the devil to establish his kingdom. Oh, such consistency!

Again, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven," and vote that his will shall *not* be done; for is it God's will that instead of attracting young men into reading-rooms prayer-meetings, social and religious gatherings, and other places which tend to elevate humanity, socially, religiously and intellectually, we shall assist in licensing these hell-traps which lure the unsuspecting boys away and drag them down until they bring disgrace upon their friends, and they themselves fill drunkard's graves?

And further, does any sane person harbor the thought that there are saloons and gambling hells in heaven? Some say "what an absurd question!" That is true; but is it as absurd as to pray Almighty God that His will may be done on earth as it is in heaven, and then go straight to the polls and vote to still further extend the devil's kingdom? "Give us this day our daily bread." The above sentence is uttered by high license christians without stopping to consider that it means all, and not just the persons uttering it; for we see them rise up and vote to license the very business that takes food from the mouths and raiment from the backs of poor families of those addicted to rum.

And last, but not least, we hear them say, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Who in the name of all that is just and holy, can feelingly utter these words, and then go and vote that the most dangerous temptations on God's foot stool shall be placed in every village or on every hilltop in the land, from the evils of which we cannot reasonably expect to be relieved as long as they exist in our midst? Oh, inconsistent man! how long shall these things be? Let every true American citizen of whatever political party rise up and assist the BLADE in its noble effort to pulverize the rum power.

GEO. T. MASON.
Arcola, Ill.

The plan for a publication by *The Wide Awake Exchange Co.*, of DesMoines, Iowa, is meeting with favor all over the country by the Real Estate Agent or Dealer, Lawyers and Abstractors.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

The Dakota assembly has passed the woman's suffrage bill by a vote of 29 to 18. A canvass of the council indicates its passage by that body.

Civil service examinations for departmental service at Washington, will be held at Chicago, Feb. 24, Springfield, Ill., Feb. 26, and Indianapolis, Feb. 28.

The lower House of the Maine legislature passed a bill appropriating $10,000 to aid in entertaining the national encampment of the G. A. R., which is to meet at Portland.

About 300 exhibitors, who had been unable to secure renewals of passes of admission to the New Orleans Exposition, gathered at the gates Wednesday by agreement, and forced an entrance. Many who could not get passes paid for entrance, and others refused to join the demonstration at the gates. At one time a serious riot was threatened.

Specials report snow storms at Montgomery and Tuscaloosa, Ala. At Columbia, Duck Hill and Macon, there has been a fall of nine inches, the heaviest snows ever known at those places. The snow at Vicksburg delays railroad trains and the fog on the river checks the movements of boats. Snow also fell at Shreveport, La.

Publishers' Column.

A NEW CARTOON: "WHICH ROAD DO YOU WANT YOUR BOY TO TAKE?"

We shall have ready for mailing, in a few days, a new and powerful Pictorial Temperance argument, under the above title. It is a series of pictures, commencing with the face of a beautiful three-year-old, who starts in life on an equality with all other three-year-olds. On the upward line comes first the clean-faced boy of 10 on his way to school; next, the young, ambitious student of 18; then the young business men of 25; then the middle-aged, strong man of 50; and, lastly, the hale and hearty old man of 80.

The contrast is another line of pictures, viz: The street boy already under the influence of rum, with the stub of a cigar in his mouth, at 10, the hoodlum at 18, the barroom loafing ruffian at 25, the tramp and criminal of 50, and the broken-down vagabond of 70.

There can be no more forcible presentation of the subject in pictorial form, and no cartoon can be devised that will better tell the whole story and do it at a glance.

We would like to send them out gratis, but we have already taxed ourselves too heavily. Of our other cartoon, "Do you see any good coming out of it?" we have sent out 100,000, free, paying for paper, printing and postage.

We will mail this one to any address as follows:

Three	4 cents.
Six	6 cents.
Twenty-five	20 cents.
One Hundred	50 cents.

This barely covers the cost of printing and postage.

We want them pasted up so that they will stay, in every shop, store, factory, and on fences where they will be seen, in every section of the United States. There must be a temperance sentiment developed, everywhere. The people need awakening on this most important question.

Send in your orders at once, and when received post them where they will be seen. We shall follow this with others in quick succession.

RENEW IN TIME.

Don't neglect to renew your subscription to the BLADE before your time expires. And when you renew do your neighbor a favor by securing his subscription. It is as easy to send a postal note for $2 as $1.

OUR HOME MOTTOES.

Those entitled to our Home Mottoes will receive them very soon. We have been delayed by the engravers and lithographers, but they are now well along and will be ready for mailing in a very short time.

SEND US THE NAMES OF YOUR FRIENDS.

We ask every subscriber to the BLADE to send us the names of his friends who do not take the BLADE, everywhere. We don't care how many—the more the better, nor does it make any difference where they are. The BLADE circulates everywhere and a name from Texas is as good as one from Maine. Send us names.

"NASBY IN EXILE."

The price of this widely circulated book has been reduced from $3.50 to $2.00, by mail postpaid. It is the best book of travels that has been written for years, and, at the reduced price, is the cheapest book on the market. It is just now a very timely book as its descriptions of Ireland and the Irish and the Tower of London are the best that have ever been put in print. The book is full of meat and should be in every library. Sent on receipt of price postpaid.

"HEALTH AND BEAUTY" AND "SOCIAL ETIQUETTE."

Every family in the land in which there are children should have these works by Miss BOUTON, Household Editor of the BLADE. "Health and Beauty" is valuable as instructing how to conserve Health and obtain Beauty, and "Social Etiquette" is a perfect instructor in the forms and observances of good society. They can not have too wide a circulation. Price, each $1. Sent by mail postpaid, on receipt of price.

THE BEST BOOKS AT THE LOWEST PRICES.

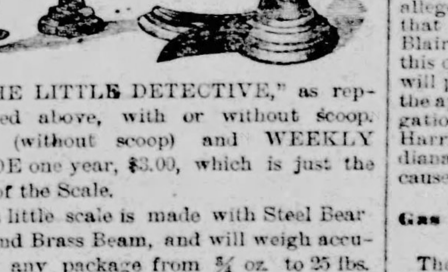
Please notice our book announcement on fifth page. The publications of the Locke Publishing Company are the best of their class, and they are the cheapest first-class books on the market, and every one of them useful as well as entertaining. For any of these books, with or without the BLADE, address Locke Publishing Company, Toledo, O.

TO TEMPERANCE MEN AND WOMEN.

Send for two things: Blanks for organization on a non-partisan basis, for Prohibition, and our cartoon, "Do you see any good coming out of it." When you get the blanks go to work and get signatures on them, and post up the cartoons everywhere. The cartoons free to any address, and the blanks free if you don't feel able to remit 5, 10 or 25 cents to cover the cost of printing and postage. Anyhow, send for them. The cartoon is the most effective temperance sermon that has been published for years.

The Blade AND SCALES.

For the benefit of farmers and others who have difficulty in securing good scales, THE WEEKLY BLADE offers the following:



"THE LITTLE DETECTIVE," as represented above, with or without scoop. Scale (without scoop) and WEEKLY BLADE one year, $3.00, which is just the price of the Scale.

This little scale is made with Steel Bearings and Brass Beam, and will weigh accurately any package from ¼ oz. to 25 lbs. It is intended to supply the great demand for a Houskeeper's Scale. Nothing of the kind has ever been sold before for less than from $8 to $10. Every Scale is perfect and will last a person's lifetime.

It is also valuable in every office for weighing mail matter. There is no better Scale made for Postmasters, as it is as nicely adjusted as any Letter Balance.

REMEMBER, with WEEKLY BLADE one year, only ... $3.00

If you want a Scoop with the Scale, as represented above, the price with WEEKLY will be ... $3.35

Which is to say, you get the Scale as cheaply of us as you can buy it at the Factory, and you get the BLADE for nothing.

As with the Waterbury Watch, we warrant the Scale to be all that is represented, and to give perfect satisfaction.

THE UNION OR FAMILY SCALE.

The price of this Scale is $5.00, and we offer with THE WEEKLY BLADE one year for $4.25

THE UNION OR FAMILY SCALE

Is made of nice smooth castings, heavy Tin Scoop, and a neat Brass Beam with upper row of figures for scoop, the lower row for platform, japanned black, neatly striped and bronzed.

This is a useful Family Scale, especially for farmers. Small parcels from one-half ounce up can be weighed in the scoop, and larger packages, up to 240 pounds, on the platform. The platform is 10x13¼ inches, being large enough to weigh quite a good-sized box of soap or maple sugar, a barrel of potatoes or dried apples, a tub of butter, a cheese, sack of grain or wool, a quarter of beef, a dressed hog, and many other things that it is desirable to weigh.

These Scales are sent by express at the expense of the purchaser.

Address THE BLADE.

WINTER WHEAT.

The Reports from a Number of States Decidedly Discouraging.

S. W. Tallmadge, of Milwaukee, is in receipt of the following late information as regards the area, condition and prospects of the winter wheat crop: Virginia—Randolph Harrison, Commissioner of Agriculture, says: "I have official figures from all sections of the state, and the acreage is short fully 30 per cent. from last year. As regards the condition, I have advices from the southwest portion of the state reporting the wheat as being almost destroyed, winter killed, and from advices and what I have seen in the last few days the prospect for wheat is worse than it has been since 1866. Alternate freezing and thaws, with no snow to protect, is the principal cause."

Maryland—The area sown to wheat is fully 25 per cent. short as compared with last year. Hear of no serious damage. The condition, however, is not flattering, owing to the haste in sowing and the soil not being prepared to receive the seed.

Missouri—J. W. Sanborn, secretary of the State board of Agriculture, says the area sown to wheat is ten per cent. short of 1884. Hear but little damage to the plant as yet.

Illinois—The acreage sown to wheat is about 15 per cent. short of last year. Some damage, but nothing serious, was reported in the southern part of the state early. The ground is now covered with snow, and will not be able to tell much about the condition of the grain until the snow goes off.

Tennessee—A. J. McWhirter, commissioner of Agriculture, says the crop of Tennessee is fully 20 per cent less in acreage than last year, and the damage by freezing is all of 10 per cent.

Kansas—The area sown to wheat in this State is short about 30 per cent. as compared with last year. Some of the largest wheat growing counties in the State have reduced their wheat area from 25 to 50 per cent., owing principally to the ruling low price of wheat during the past season. The condition of the growing wheat is not up to the standard. Some sections report damage by insects in the fall; owing to the severity of the winter many predict injury by winter killing. However, it is too early to tell much about the latter.

Kentucky—C. E. Bowen, commissioner of agriculture, says the acreage sown to wheat in this state is from ten to fifteen per cent. less than that of previous year. The winter has been very unfavorable; alternate freezing and thaws have lifted the plant to the surface, and it is in a badly crippled condition.

North Carolina—The area sown to wheat is very much less than last year, and the condition is not very encouraging, on account of the long-continued drouth of last fall. The winter has been unfavorable, and much complaint of winter killing is heard.

New York—The area sown to wheat is somewhat less than last season. The condition is quite favorable; no damage by winter killing or other causes is heard of.

West Virginia—John H. Studer, statistical agent, under date of Feb. 4, says: "The acreage of West Virginia is short fully 20 per cent. as compared with last year. The condition is very unpromising, with the worst weather—March winds, freezing and thawing—yet to pass. The present outlook will not warrant half a crop."

Georgia—The extreme drouth of the fall extended almost to December, and has caused a large falling off in the area sown to wheat. The condition is very unfavorable, owing to the unseasonable weather during the forepart of the winter.

Minnesota—H. H. Young, statistical agent of Minnesota, says in regard to the spring wheat seeding: "The area sown to wheat will probably be fully 10 per cent short of last year, or not more than 2,500,000 acres."

Dakota—James H. Baines, statistical agent of Dakota, says that not more than one-eighth of the crop in Northern Dakota, and three-eighths in Southern Dakota remains in farmers' hands, and the elevators are kept well cleaned out. If prices remain low the area to wheat will not be increased any this spring.

FIRE RECORD.

Fire at Rochester destroyed the Genesee brewery. Loss, $125,000; insurance, $55,000.

A. Monarch & Co's., distillery, at Owensboro, Ky., was destroyed by fire Wednesday. Loss, $50,000; insurance, $60,000.

The Legden House, Atlanta, Ga., burned Wednesday. Loss, $25,000; insurance, $14,000. The Federals used the building for headquarters while Sherman was in the city.

Fire at Huron, Kan., Wednesday, destroyed a number of stores. Among the sufferers are K. Langfore, Sager & Kelley, Young & White, Lewis & Co., and Davis S. Miltz. Total loss, $30,000; insured half. The town burned out a few months ago.

"Old Hickory's" Papers and Property.

Col. Andrew Jackson, grandson of the late Pres. Andrew Jackson, who resides at the Hermitage, in Tennessee, Monday took out letters of administration upon the estate of his grandfather, and immediately through his solicitors, John Paul Jones and Robert B. Lines, filed a bill in equity setting forth that the widow of the late Hon. Montgomery Blair and her son, Woodbury Blair, now have possession of and claim to own a large number of very valuable papers relating to the public and private life of Gen. Jackson, and praying an injunction against defendants to prevent them from disposing of or publishing any of said papers. It is stated that these papers were placed in the hands of Amos Kendall, in 1843, with a view to the publication of a biography of Gen. Jackson, which he (Kendall) had undertaken to write. The papers were lost for many years, and were found by Col. William G. Terrell, of Kentucky, in 1879, subsequent to the death of Kendall, when they were placed in the hands of Montgomery Blair "for safe keeping," as Col. Jackson alleges in his bill. Blair, however, claimed that the papers were given to Francis P. Blair, sr., by Gen. Jackson, and it is upon this question that the suit just instituted will probably turn. The bill also prays for the appointment of a receiver pending litigation. Col. Jackson has retained Sens. Harris, of Tennessee, and Voorhees, of Indiana, and Rep. Caldwell as counsel in the cause.

Gas Explosion—One Man Killed and Several Wounded.

The journals of the air shaft fan in the Hillmrn Vein Coal company's mine at Wilkesbarre, Pa., became over-heated, and a brief stoppage for repairs allowed the gas to accumulate in the workings. As a miner entered one of the breasts with a naked lamp, the gas was fired, and an explosion took place, spreading into the gangways in other parts of the mine, doing considerable damage to the workings. A large number of miners and laborers were at work at the time the explosion occurred, many of whom fortunately escaped, while a number were seriously injured. They are as follows: James Solomon, killed; Daniel Richards, thigh broken; John O'Donnell, arm broken; Harry Greibel, Harry Dunston, Wm. Eustice, Harry Jenkins, Wm. Reed, Thomas D. Jones, Thomas S. Jones, and John Williams, seriously burned.

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BOOK DEALERS AND STATIONERS,
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For any book or any article of stationery write us for prices and catalogue. Reference, Toledo Blade.

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WANTED—Ladies and gentlemen to take nice, light, pleasant work at their own homes (distance no objection); work sent by mail; $2 to $5 a day can be quietly made; no canvassing. Please address at once, Reliable Mfg. Co., Philadelphia, Pa., Box 1593.

Young Man Oriental Charm will help you get there. Sample 25c silver; 6, $1. Box 33 Gloversville, N.Y.

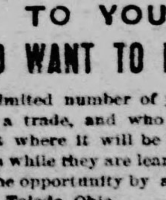
THE DANCING SKELETON, only 15c, two for 25c. Everyone wants one. Address J. CARLETON, Blade Office, Toledo, O.

ALL Ladies interested in Fancy Needle Work, Embroidery or Perforated Paper Patterns are invited to send their address to Mrs. S. E. WILSON, Tiffin, Ohio.

50 Cards, all embossed, name on, 10c. 6 packs and Perfume Sachet, 50c. Munson Bros., Mt. Carmel, Ct.

FOR SALE—Two-acre lot, buildings, saw-mill, &c., near Lincoln, Neb. Correspondence solicited. Box 103 Morristown, Ind.

GREENBACK—$100 for every $10 you invest. W. FONDREN, Langston, Ala.



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WHO WANT TO LEARN A TRADE!

A limited number of young men who want to learn a trade, and who have a little capital to invest where it will be absolutely safe, and get wages while they are learning their business, can find the opportunity by addressing H. M. PETTINGILL, Toledo, Ohio.

This is genuine and bona fide. For responsibility, character, and everything connected with this proposition, I refer to the Editor of the WEEKLY BLADE. Full particulars sent on application.

Thirty-Ninth Annual STATEMENT OF THE CONNECTICUT MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, CONN.

NET ASSETS, January 1, 1884		$51,215,581 32
RECEIVED IN 1884.		
For Premiums	$4,707,437 43	
For Interest and Rents	2,777,229 57	
Profit and Loss	17,347 91	7,502,014 90
		$58,717,596 22

DISBURSED IN 1884.

TO POLICY-HOLDERS:		
For claims by death and matured endowments	$3,542,228 18	
Surplus retur'd to policy-holders	1,153,608 28	
Lapsed and Surrendered Policies	816,475 17	
TOTAL TO POLICY-HOLDERS	$5,512,306 63	
EXPENSES:		
Commissions to Agents, Salaries, Medical Examiners' fees, Printing, Advertising, Legal, Real Estate, and all other Expenses	653,269 05	
TAXES	334,270 05	
		$6,499,845 73
BALANCE NET ASSETS, Dec. 31, 1884		52,217,750 49

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS.

Loans upon Real Estate, first lien	$27,096,682 82
Loans upon Stocks and Bonds	283,000 00
Premium Notes on Policies in force	2,624,723 57
Cost of Real Estate owned by the Company	11,755,788 58
Cost of United States Registered Bonds	99,125 00
Cost of State and City Bonds	2,239,684 58
Cost of other Bonds	7,216,558 70
Cost of Bank Stock	122,761 00
Cost of Railroad Stock	26,000 00
Cash in Bank	750,110 64
Balance due from Agents	3,320 60
	$52,217,750 49

ADD		
Interest due and accrued	$1,021,652 71	
Rents accrued	18,777 03	
Market value of stocks and bonds over cost	119,945 95	
Net premiums in course of collection	NONE.	
Net deferred quarterly and semi annual premiums	51,906 73	
		$1,212,282 42
GROSS ASSETS, December 31, 1884		$53,430,032 91
LIABILITIES:		
Amount required to re-insure all outstanding policies, net, assuming 4 per cent interest	$48,418,419 00	
Additional reserve by Company's Standard, 3 per cent. on policies issued since April 1, 1882	73,834 00	
All other liabilities	815,955 34	
		$49,308,208 34
SURPLUS by Company's Standard		$4,121,824 57
SURPLUS by Conn. Standard, 4 per ct.		4,195,658 57
SURPLUS by N. Y. Standard, 4½ per ct., over		7,300,000 00
Ratio of expenses of management to receipts in 1884		8.7 per cent.
Policies in force Dec. 31, 1884, 62,934, insuring		$152,230,685 00

JACOB L. GREENE, President.
JOHN M. TAYLOR, Vice-President.
WILLIAM G. ABBOT, Secretary.
D. H. WELLS, Actuary.
ROBERT H. KELLOGG, General Agent for Ohio, Corner Fifth and Walnut streets, Cincinnati, Ohio.

CAPITAL PRIZE $75,000.
Tickets only $5. Shares in proportion.

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"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Semi-Annual Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with fac-similes of our signatures attached, in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
J. A. Early

Commissioners.

Incorporated in 1868 for 25 years by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes—with a capital of $1,000,000—to which a reserve fund of over $550,000 has since been added.

By an overwhelming popular vote its franchise was made a part of the present State Constitution adopted December 2d, A. D., 1879.

The only Lottery ever voted on and endorsed by the people of any State.

It never scales or postpones.

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A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A FORTUNE. THIRD GRAND DRAWING, CLASS C, IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, March 10, 1885—178th Monthly Drawing.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $75,000.

100,000 Tickets at Five Dollars Each. Fractions, in Fifths, in proportion.

LIST OF PRIZES.

1	CAPITAL PRIZE		$75,000
1	do	do	25,000
1	do	do	10,000
2	PRIZES OF	$6000	12,000
5	do	2000	10,000
10	do	1000	10,000
20	do	500	10,000
100	do	200	20,000
300	do	100	30,000
500	do	50	25,000
1000	do	25	25,000

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

9	Approximation Prizes of	$750	6,750
9	do	do 500	4,500
9	do	do 250	2,250

1967 Prizes, amounting to ... $265,500

Application for rates to clubs should be made only to the office of the Company in New Orleans.

For further information write clearly, giving full address. POSTAL NOTES, Express Money Orders, or New York Exchange in ordinary letter. Currency by Express (all sums of $5 and upwards at our expense) addressed

M. A. DAUPHIN, New Orleans, La.

or M. A. DAUPHIN, 607 Seventh St., Washington, D. C.

Make P. O. Money Orders payable and address Registered Letters to

NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL BANK, New Orleans, La.

LOUISIANA STATE LOTTERY

for tickets or further information of the above Lottery address,

DAVE C. JOHNSTON, Covington, Ky.

Amounts of $5 and over, by express at my expense.

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A PACKAGE Mixed Flower Seeds (400 kinds) with PARK'S FLORAL GUIDE, all for 2 stamps. Tell all your friends. G. W. PARK, Fannettsburg, Pa. Write now. This notice will appear but twice.

FREE!! A GIFT! FREE!!

MAKE THE CHILDREN HAPPY and cultivate a taste for the beautiful. We have determined, for the next three months, or until June 1, 1885, to PRESENT to every reader of this paper a BEAUTIFUL doll's set of DRAWING-ROOM furniture, simply requiring you to send this advertisement and twenty-five cents to help pay cost of postage and packing.

These sets of furniture are real works of art, and are finished in seven different colors, and represent the most beautiful patterns of RAW SILK and ROSEWOOD. Fourteen pieces comprise one set, and consist of the following: One sofa (or tete a tete) of latest fashionable design, one easy chair, one piano and piano cover, two vases, one beautiful little clock, three chairs, one reception chair, one screen of quaint Japanese design, one center table, one easel, holding a handsome picture, and one foot stool.

The entire set of fourteen pieces will be sent free to any address in the United States and Canada, on receipt of this advertisement and twenty-five cents to help pay packing and postage.

As an extra gift, and to establish our reputation in every household in the land, we will send ABSOLUTELY FREE with each set of furniture, three of our lovely French dolls, with an elegant wardrobe of thirty-two pieces of wearing apparel of latest Parisian design.

This unparalleled gift we make to introduce goods of our manufacture all over the country, and to every one we so procure we will send FREE one of our handsomely illustrated mammoth catalogues and price lists.

Not more than six sets will be sent to any one address. If you wish one set, send this advertisement and twenty-five cents; if you wish three sets, send this advertisement and sixty cents; if six sets are desired, send this advertisement and one dollar.

Remember the three French dolls and their wardrobe go with each set, whether it is one or six that you order, and all postage prepaid by us.

This advertisement will not appear in this paper again; hence, we require you to cut it out and send to us with your order and above amounts (according to the number of sets you wish), to help pay packing and postage. Order not later than June 1, 1885. Postage stamps taken.

Address L. H. HART & CO., 55 Warren St., New York.

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The Fireside at Home is a large 16-page, 64-column Illustrated Literary and Family paper, filled with the most interesting and instructive reading matter for all. Its publishers, wishing to introduce it into thousands of homes where it is not already taken, now make the following great and liberal offer: We will send The Fireside at Home for Three Months upon receipt of only Twenty-five Cents, and to the first subscriber accepting this offer we will give, free, an elegant Solid Gold Watch; to the second, a Solid Silver Watch; to the third, a Solid Nickel Watch; to the fourth, a Violin; to the fifth, an Accordion; to the sixth, a Silver-Plated Caster; to the seventh, a Silver-Plated Butter Dish; to the eighth, a Silver-Plated Cake Basket; to the ninth, one-half dozen Silver-Plated Knives; to the tenth, one-half dozen Silver-Plated Table Spoons; to the eleventh, one-half dozen Silver-Plated Teaspoons; to the twelfth, a Solid Gold Ring; to the thirteenth, a handsome Necklace; to the fourteenth, a fine Vest Chain; to the next one hundred, each a handsome Ladies' Pin; to the next one hundred, each a Dictionary; to the next one hundred, each a handsome Rolled Gold-Plated Ring; to the next one hundred, each a Silver-Plated Butter Knife, and to all the remainder, each a good Microscope. All the premiums offered are first-class goods of genuine merit, warranted to give satisfaction. Every subscriber is guaranteed double the value of money invested, while those who send first will get an unprecedented bargain. As to our reliability we refer to any publisher in N. Y. This is no catchpenny affair, but a bona fide offer by reliable publishers. Five subscriptions and five premiums sent for $1.00. Address, S. H. MOORE & CO., 27 Park Place, New York.

FREE! $100.00 FREE!!

The person sending us the largest amount of orders for our Cards, Jewelry, Novelties, &c., before April 1st, '85, we will give one Solid Gold, Stem-Winding, Lady's or Gent's Watch, worth $50, Free! The next largest amount, $25.00 in Cash, 3rd, $15 Cash, 4th, $10 Cash, and to further induce you to sell our goods we will send you (for samples only), on receipt of 44 cts. in postage stamps, Your Name printed on 40 Elegant Perfumed Cards (all imported from Germany), one Solid 18k. Rolled Gold Ring in Velvet Case, 1 set Heavy Rolled Gold Cuff Buttons, 1 Heavy Rolled Gold Collar Button, 1 Chain, and other samples which you can easily sell for over $3.00. Goods may be returned and money refunded if not satisfactory. Send at once as this advertisement will not appear again. Clinton Bros. & Co., Clintonville, Ct.

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Containing 1 pkge. Silk and Satin Blocks for Patchwork; 1 pkge. Fancy Work Needles; 3 yards of Elegant Imported Lace; 1 pkge. Embroidery Silk, assorted; 1 pkge. Fancy Work Patterns, new designs; 1 Silvered Thimble; ½ doz. Fruit Napkins; and 1 Handsome Bound 64 Page Cook Book. All sent FREE to any one sending 30 cts. for 3 months trial subscription to LEISURE HOUR, a bright and sparkling story paper. For a club of 3 and $1.00 we will send 3 subscriptions and 3 Work Baskets, and give a Gold Enameled Screw Propelling Pencil Extra. Address LEISURE HOUR CO., Clark St., Chicago, Ill. GIVEN AWAY

$2.00 for 30 CENTS
OUR WONDER BOX

contains the following: 100 Choice Embossed Pictures, 5 Portrait Busts (lifelike representations of our Presidents), 12 German Dolls' Heads, 1 Comic Valentine, 6 New Style Red Napkins, 100 Valentine and Autograph Verses, 1 Embossed Valentine, (for lady or gent), 1 Porcelain Lamp Shade Cover, 1 Pack Parisian Transparent Cards, (hidden scenes), $500 Confederate Money, 1 Sheet Transfer Pictures, and other amusements. All the above FREE, if you will send 30c. in stamps to pay cost of mailing, &c. Name paper. Eagle Mfg. Co., Centerbrook, Ct.

MEDICAL LAKE SALTS are obtained by evaporating the water of Medical Lake, Washington Territory, and, when dissolved in clean well or cistern, they impart to it all the curative properties of the water of that truly wonderful lake. One box of these salts will medicate twenty gallons of water, and will be sent, by mail, on the receipt of $1. They cure Rheumatism, Catarrh, Dyspepsia, Piles, and all throat and skin diseases. County and District Agents wanted, to whom special rates and exclusive territory will be given. Send for Circular. Address the CHICAGO MEDICAL LAKE MFG. CO., 115 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill. Send four cents for sample package.

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To introduce new goods and secure future trade, we will send you, free of charge, if you will send 20 cts. in stamps for postage, a Pretty Valentine Cards, 1 delicate Sentimental Valentine, 1 Perfumed Valentine (very rare), 2 Comic Valentines, 1 Beautiful Gold and Floral Autograph Album, lithographed with birds, ferns, moss roses, &c., 1 Photograph Album of the Presidents of the U. S. with autograph signature of each, 1 Beautiful Doll with bangled hair, dresses, hats, cloaks, &c. Stamps taken. CONN. STEAM CARD WORKS, Hartford, Conn.

FREE A CORN SHELLER.

The new "Eclipse" Corn Sheller is the simplest, easiest working sheller on the market, and the only one that is not forever out of order. To introduce it into every town at once we will send one Sheller, prepaid, to any person who will agree to show it to their friends and send us the names of five farmers' sons in their town and 25 cents for the expenses of this advertisement. Address ACME MAUFACTURING CO., IVORYTON, CONN.

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Any lady sending 14 2c. stamps for three months subscription to Happy Days, the popular Literary Magazine, we will present, free, 1 package beautiful assorted Silk Blocks for patchwork, 1 package Embroidery Silk, assorted colors, and a Lovely Pongee Silk Handkerchief, size 20 x 20 inches. Address AMERICAN CO., CENTERBROOK, CONN.

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$250 FREE. Return this slip to us with TEN CENTS and we will send you by mail valuable samples of a new business, with box of goods, which will help you to make more money at once than anything ever advertised. Either sex. ELLIS MFG. CO., Chicago, Ill. Special.—A Gold Dollar free to each of the first 250 who answer this ad't. (Mention this paper.)

50 Hidden Name and Chromos for 1885, with name and this Rolled Gold Ring for 10c. stamps; 5 packs and 5 Rings for $1.00. Cut this out. Reliable Card Co., Clintonville, Conn.

AGENTS coin money collecting Family Pictures to enlarge; all styles. Pictures guaranteed. Special inducements. EMPIRE COPYING CO., 381 Canal Street, N.Y.

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A Book Which Should be in Every Family.

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EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN.

We want to employ one capable lady in every County in the United States, to whom we can give employment that will net earn them at least $1 a day, and as much more as they develop skill. Employment absolutely respectable, and results certain. Full particulars sent on receipt of application by postal card. It costs nothing to get particulars. Address a postal card to

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Refers to the Toledo Blade Company.

Debilitated Men

CIVIALE REMEDIAL AGENCY, 166 Fulton St., New York.

In these days of over-civilization, Hot-house Development of the Passions, the Race for Wealth, Strain, Overwork, Youthful Abuse, Excesses & the like, Men Grow Old Too Fast! Young men, instead of being robust, vigorous and ambitious are weak, nervous and debilitated. Men in the very prime of Life find themselves practically unsexed and impotent.

There is a CERTAIN CURE for this, and any man prematurely weakened can satisfy himself of this fact by trying a course of the CIVIALE SOLUBLE CRAYONS. Painless, Absolutely Harmless, Prompt and Permanent. VARICOCELE as promptly cured. ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLET, 25 stamps.

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR.

Correspondents writing for this department will please observe the following rules:
1. Write "Household department" on the envelope.
2. Give real name and post-office address—not for publication, but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.
3. Write on one side of the paper. Write plainly. Do not be verbose. Write briefly.

WOMAN'S WORK.

WHAT CAN SHE DO?

XVIII.

One objection which is often made to training women in industrial pursuits other than those which have been hers since the days when the luckless pair were driven out of Eden is, that trained to self-support, they will not marry and become, as God designed them to be, mothers and nurses of children. That is to say, the attractions of wifehood and child-bearing would fade utterly away if they were allowed the same privileges that men enjoy of entering any field of labor which they desire, and receiving fair remuneration. This certainly places these relations in life upon the low ground of barter and sale since it makes woman enter marriage as a means of support. If this be true, it might be worth while—since it is complained that there are already more people in the world than can be taken care of comfortably—to try the experiment of putting them upon higher foundations, even if it did check the present rapid multiplication of the species.

This is, however, an absurdity born of man's selfishness, which the better part of him is rapidly trampling under foot. So long as the world stands and there are male and female, so long will each be attracted to the other, and there be marrying and giving in marriage. The very fact that women can take care of themselves will simply lift the sacrament or contract—whichever it should be—to a higher plane, and make happier homes in consequence. Men will not regard their wives as simply the recipients of their bounty, and women will cease to feel like paupers, since they voluntarily give up the earning of money to take upon themselves duties which fairly entitles them to an equal share of the earnings of those for whom they yielded up their independence.

Another objection to the industrial training of women is the ill effect constant employment at hard work will have upon their physical constitutions. Strange to say these sapient reasoners do not recall the fact that from the beginning, women have done the drudgery of every-day life. They bend over the washtub, they stand by the ironing table, they bake and scrub, they carry wood and coal, and in the intervals they make and darn and mend, and this goes on from daylight, often into night. And to these labors, child-bearing and caring for children, and it is evident that the physical strain is quite as great as in any regular remunerative industry. Going over the seas and women are found performing the hardest kinds of manual labor day after day, in addition to that which belongs in her 'sphere.'

The argument is without reason. In fact this fear of the effect of constant employment upon woman's constitution was never heard of, nor, as Mrs. Livermore well says, "the terrible dangers this work will inflict upon her prospective maternity," until she began "to invade the higher forms of labor hitherto monopolized by man, or as Charles W. Elliot expressed it, "to prepare by superior education to engage in clerkships, telegraphy, newspaper writing, etc." Here then is the head and front of the whole offence, and the root of this anxiety in regard to the failure of woman's health should she succeed in entering these new fields of work.

That women themselves are not haunted by such harrowing anticipations is evident from the crowd of earnest questioners as to what they can best do to earn an independence, and I only stop to speak of it, because these arguments have recently been rehashed to me with reference to some of the employments about which I propose to talk, and I do not want any one of my readers to be deterred from her undertaking by such arrant nonsense.

Telegraphy is one of those occupations which women should not enter, according to Mr. Elliot, but which I am now going to tell you about.

It is only a very few years since it was thought possible for women to do telegraphing, but after a beginning was made, their numbers rapidly increased, and each year sees more and more preparing themselves for the work. In Europe they are very generally employed in the government telegraph offices, where they give good satisfaction. Both in England and France, such situations were at first only open to individuals belonging to certain classes, but now they are given to any who can show themselves possessing the requisite qualifications. In Italy one-third of the positions is assigned to the widows and orphans of telegraph officials.

In this country the Western Union employs women in many of the offices in large cities, where they occupy subordinate but fairly paying positions. In small country towns they are found doing the principal work, and doing it well, and in San Francisco all the day district telegraphing is done by women.

So much for the present condition of this industry so far as it interests our side of the house. Now for the practical part.

You make up your mind that you want to become a telegrapher. In this, as in all other occupations, something more than mere fancy must govern your selection. You must be sure, to start with, that you have the requisite qualifications. These are not many. You must be quick of apprehension, to be able to catch the meaning of a message at once and understand it clearly. A great deal depends upon the ability to decipher not only names but the signification of words in different connections. If you are slow of comprehension, you will be very likely in an emergency to lose yourself and fail utterly. You need a fair common school education, and should be able to write rapidly and plainly, and to spell well. You must have a love for the work, and a determination to be faithful at all times, for neglect in this can be repaired with great difficulty.

You can obtain the training for this occupation in one of two ways: First, by attending a good school of telegraphy, where, for the first three months, you will be employed in learning the alphabet, and transmitting messages at the key. You must practice every day from four to six hours, and then you will be taught to receive messages by the ticks of the sounder. Here is where quickness of the ear and self-possession come in. Some who have natural gifts in this direction will be proficient in a very short time, while others never succeed in becoming skilled operators. If, however, you are up to the average, at the end of six months you will be ready to take a subordinate position in a country or branch telegraph office, but with the hardest work it will be likely to be a year before you will be expert enough to send 80 words in a minute.

Now, as to the other way. I asked an exceedingly intelligent gentleman holding a responsible position in the Western Union, what course he would take had he a daughter or friend who desired to learn telegraphy. "I would not send her to any school of telegraphy," he replied; "but would put her into some small office at once, where she could be taught, and the assistance she might be able to render, would pay for her teaching. Of course she would not expect to receive any compensation until she had become skilled. Otherwise, I would have her take lessons from some practical telegrapher until she was fitted to enter a subordinate position and work up."

The last way—that is to go to the Superintendent and ask permission to enter some small office without compensation in order to learn the work—seemed to him the best. Of course there are differences of opinion. His idea came from lack of confidence in schools of telegraphy, and I find there are many who feel the same. That there are good ones is without a shadow of doubt, but very many are merely speculative institutions. I have before me now a letter from a young man who feels that he has been swindled, for after spending considerable money and time at one of these places, he finds himself unable to fill any paying position. Therefore if you decide to obtain your early training in that way, be sure that you choose a first class school. Take the advice of some one in the business and pay no attention to the advertisements of such institutions as are unknown, yet which promise to make you a good operator in a very short time, or you will probably pay a goodly sum of money without corresponding results. You would be far better off to take private lessons from some operator.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

Lamp Shade.—Get pink tissue paper and cut a piece eight inches wide and three quarters of a yard long. Paste the sides together and cut the bottom into deep scallops, and the top into more shallow ones. Fold in fine knife blade pleatings, and press them in by putting inside a book. When pressed make the upper part firm by pasting a narrow band of paper a little below the scollops, and then put a pretty butterfly bow over the place it comes together. The soft roseate light thus produced is very becoming to those upon whom it falls.

Silk Traveling Caps for Gentlemen.—These are very convenient articles and make nice presents for gentleman friends who travel a good deal. For an old gentleman black silk would be most suitable. For younger ones any deep, rich color can be used lined with a contrasting color. Cut a band long enough to go around the head and from two-and-a-half to three inches wide, and a lining the same size. Baste these carefully together, and join at the end. The crown and lining are about eight inches in diameter, and to be sewed to the upper side of the band; the lining must be hemmed over the seam to make it neat. Turn a small edge at the lower side of the band, and hem the lining on it also. This band may be braided, or embroidered in dark crimson, with a gold thread, which gives a rich and oriental look; or for one of quiet taste, a simple stitching or gold cord along the edge makes a nice finish.

Tea Cosy.—A very pretty one can be made of white or drab linen. The pieces, four or six in number, are to be cut in oblong half circles. Embroider each one with scarlet cotton, putting on figures of Japanese gathering tea, or any other fanciful design. Put three or four thicknesses of cotton batting between each piece and the scarlet lining, baste and sew them together and put a small scarlet cord over the seams, and a larger one around the lower edge. Have a scarlet cord loop at the point to take it up by.

Lambrequins.—Let me tell you how to make some pretty lambrequins for sitting-room. Take 1½ yds. brown Canton flannel for each window, make crosswise of goods, sew wool fringe down sides and across bottom, lay box plait in the middle of curtain at the top to make curtain the proper width; loop up in the middle with cord and tassel to match fringe. It makes pretty ones, and cheap.—LORA D., Bloomington, Ill.

Knitting and Cro cheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s l, slip 1; t t o, throw thread over; k, bind, o, over, sl, slip.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; ch st, close chain stitch; d c st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; t st, treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

Oakleaf Lace (2).—In the BLADE of Jan. 22 "B. M. G." asks how to make oakleaf lace. I send directions. In this pattern the o2 is to be used as one stitch. Cast on 17 stitches, knit across plain. 1st row, s 1—k 1—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 k 2; 2nd row, k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 2; 3rd row, s 1—k 1—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 2—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 k 2; 4th row, k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 2—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 2; 5th row, s 1—k 1—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 3—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 k 2; 6th row, k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 3—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 2; 7th row, s 1—k 7—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 4—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 k 2; 8th row, k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 4—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 2; 9th row, s 1—k 1—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 5—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 k 2; 10th row, k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 5—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 2; 11th row, s 1—k 1—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 6—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 k 2; 12th row, k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 6—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 2; 13th row, s 1—k 1—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 7—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 n—o 2 k 2; 14th row, k 2—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 1—p 1—k 7—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—k 2; 15th row, s 1—k 1—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—knit plain to end of row; 16th row, bind off 7—k 8—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p 2 tog—o 2 p tog—k 2.—EVA E. BROGAN.

Infant's Knitted Shirt.—I have been interested in the HOUSEHOLD department, and having noticed some time since a request for knitting infant's shirt, I would like to send mine, as I have never seen any I like so well. It is perfectly simple, and yet, as our Jessie says, "Too tweet for anyfing."

Cast on 90 stitches, knitting back and forth, or garter stitch, until you have knit a square, then bind off. This forms the back of the shirt. For the front, cast on the same number of stitches and knit garter stitch until half done, then bind off 30 stitches for the opening, and cast on the same number the next time, across, and continue until it is square, then bind off. Sew the two pieces together on the shoulder about two inches. Crochet around the neck a place for a ribbon, and a little edge for the neck and for the opening. For the sleeve cast on 60 stitches, narrow on each side till you have 50 (this forms the gusset), knit about a finger of the same garter stitch, and finish up with, knit 2 and seam (or purl) 1 till long enough. Place the middle of the sleeve at the shoulder seam and sew it over-hand, then close the sides of the shirt and sleeves. I use Saxony yarn and No. 14 knitting needles. For the wrist where it is "knit 2 and seam 1," use fine needles. The shirt looks more finished to crochet a narrow edge around the bottom. I hope this will be useful to many of the readers of the HOUSEHOLD. I would like to hear if any try it and how they like it.—GRANDMA.

Correspondence Clippings.

I was pleased to read Mrs. Church's letter giving her success on poultry raising, and I hope to see other letters from ladies so engaged. I have about 75 head of fowls myself, and am keeping account of all outlay and returns. Will send my figures in next April, as that is when my year expires. I raised over 300 this year, and killed them off down to the present number and sold for broilers. Have kept fowls now for some years and have proved they pay well, and I think it a very healthy employment for women. I do everything for mine unaided, and I have five children and do all my own work, my own sewing included, and find lots of time, if I had ten times the number. If the subject is agreeable to the editor, will write again. Please some one else write.—E. H.

Some time ago I read an article in the BLADE to the effect that a school can be controlled by kindness. I say that perfect order cannot be kept without resorting to punishment of some kind. The teacher in the district near me is trying to rule by kindness, and her school is a perfect bedlam. I have 49 pupils, among whom are six young ladies and twelve young men, several older than I, and I find they are easily controlled if one first gains their friendship, which can be done by joining in their sports and mingling constantly with them during intermission. A pupil ought to be whipped for whispering, for he is breaking one of the rules. I should like to correspond with teachers in distant states.—GUY T. OLMSTEAD, Danville, Ill.

In the BLADE of Jan. 15, "B. L. N." inquires if it is right for women to speak in church, and if so where does the New Testament sanction it? See Matthew 27 chap. 55-56 verses. Will any one say these were all mutes in the church? Some of the last at the sepulchre and first there on the morn of his resurrection. See also chap. 28, verse 16, that some of those women were commissioned first to publish his triumph over the grave. Go, says the master, and tell my brethren that I am risen. Where were they assembled? See St. John. 20 c 19 v. Did these women do as Jesus bade them? See Luke, 24 c. 9 v. They not only told it to the 11, but to all the rest of the church. This is the first time that the resurrection of Jesus was preached to the infant church, and preached by women. Again Acts, 16 c 13 v., it would seem that the women of Philippi had a prayer meeting by the river side. Again see Romans, 16 ch. 1 and 2 v. Thus the good women in the history of the church were active laborers, and have been ever since and will be to the end of time. And why not? If we had no certain account of her as a worker in the Apostolic church, the fact that she is blessed in laboring in the church to-day, and her labors are blessed, in the conversion of souls is evidence sufficient to answer every objection.—A. B.

At evening time it shall be light. Yes, for God Himself hath spoken it, to comfort hearts that are sad. We all know the brightness that cheers us so when, after a long, dreary day of wind and storm, the clouds drift apart at sunset, and a flood of golden light pours down, like a benison over the storm-beaten earth. So it shall be with God's sunlight. Longfellow says:

> "Be still, sad heart! and cease repining;
> Behind the clouds is the sun still shining;
> Thy fate is the common fate of all,
> Into each life some rain must fall,
> Some days must be dark and dreary."

Then, what matter if clouds do come between us and happiness. Patience, dear friends; storms will sob themselves to sleep after a while.—MISS ROYCE, Kingsville, O.

I take so much pleasure in reading the HOUSEHOLD corner, that I just thought I would "put in a little." In fact, my husband, (who is also fond of the old BLADE) says he always knows when I have had the paper last, by the way it is folded. I am a good farmer's wife (of course I mean the farmer is good) and I do my own work when I am well, except house cleaning and such extra work, and I have plenty of time, after caring for four children (the youngest of which is a six months old baby) to read and write some, and often play on the organ for the children who love music so well. My husband does the milking, and I have a new champion clothes wringer which saves half the work in washing. I wish the sisters would try one—those that have to do their own washing. I have been cleaning house lately, varnished up my old furniture and made it look like new. I don't think I will have to get new furniture until my little daughter Amy gets large enough to have beaux and then we will have to fix up.—DUCK.

Are there any teachers who are, like myself, spending the winter at home. I wonder if any of them have a course of reading or study that they are taking and can recommend. If they have, I would like to hear from them. Can any of the readers tell me anything about stenography? What system is best, and would it pay anyone to learn it who live in a small place.—DAISY DEANE.

We will give to the HOUSEHOLD our method of teaching primary geography.

Commence with the Synthetic Method, as introductory to the proper geographical course, which is proceeding from the parts of the earth to the whole. A small and easily comprehended space at the outset. The most concrete things easily understood by children. A gradual extension and increasing variety. All that is thus learned are to be true elements of geographical instructions, produce geographic concepts and finally more and more completed relation. Then the Analytic Method is introduced, commencing with the earth as a whole and proceeding to its parts.—MARY AND ROSE FEAGAR.

I am a little girl only 13 years of age, but I feel as if you would publish this when you hear what I have to say. I am striving to be a true-hearted Christian, but troubles and temptations will come and I thought I would write to the kind ladies and editor of the BLADE for help and consolation. I feel as if sometimes my parents and brothers and sisters do not think as much of me as they might, but it must be just a fancy. I read the BLADE as soon as I can get hold of it. I have tried several of the patterns for lace and they are very nice. I would like to get one of those books of Emily S. Bouton's. I read it with interest. I am going to read one of the pieces of the BLADE to the school next Friday. The subject is "The Little Beacon Keeper." Can you tell me any thing I can do to make some money? I am pretty young to think about making my own living, but it seems to me it would be a pleasure. My parents do not know I am writing this. Do any little girls ever write to the BLADE?—PANSY BLOSSOM.

I wish to say a few words to "Anxious" in regard to the temperance cause. I am with you, "Anxious," in your noble work. Do not get disheartened if some people argue against women doing their duty in this cause. There are too many people that raise their voices against those who are endeavoring to do something in the world, trying to hinder their progress. I know this in my experience by being a woman doctor. We must comfort ourselves by thinking it is only the ignorant part of humanity that raise their voices against us, for the noble hearted and intellectual are with us every time. Go on in your noble work, attend to whatever you think is your duty, calling on God to direct you and keep you in the right way, and if you trust Him He will help and you will come out conqueror. Since I started in my profession God has been my helper. He has led me safely through many dark places in a cold and selfish world. I trust him in everything. When I place my patients under His charge they all get well. I cannot do anything without the aid of my Lord and Savior.—DOCTOR WOMAN, PA.

I am a dear lover of flowers and if I ever get married would like my wife to be an amateur. I have about 40 different varieties of ever-blooming and hybrid perpetual roses, some ornamental shrubs and grasses, flowers, etc. I could take a bunch of roses to Sunday school every Sunday last summer until frost. Had one bush of the common red rose that I counted 250 roses on it at one time. I think I understand the propagation and cultivation of the rose and most house plants tolerably well, but have lots to learn yet. If any kind reader of the HOUSEHOLD wants to know my mode of propagation, etc., I will give it.

Will some one tell me how to prepare evergreen seeds to plant? I planted last spring and failed. I want to raise red cedar for wind break round my orchard.—J. P. P., Scandia, Kas.

As this is a gloomy day, and the "low hung clouds persist in dropping their garnered fullness down," I cannot resist the temptation to knock at the door of the HOUSEHOLD and ask for a seat in the charmed circle whose warm fire of Christian sympathy and assistance is doing such a world of good, yea, even unto those who have remained silent listeners to the words of cheer and comfort so graciously bestowed by the ready writers of this numerous family.

And now you all rise for an introduction Certainly, am a teacher of ten years experience; Have a young wife who thinks a great deal of the BLADE, and especially of the HOUSEHOLD department from which she gets much help.

"Silvia," please let me help to convince the ladies that more time should be used in intellectual development even though it be taken at the expense of fine clothes. What husband had not sooner that his wife should have a cultured intellect than any amount of fineries.

"Miss Prudence," I have used the molding board successfully. Will write you my experience if you desire it. It would be too long for the HOUSEHOLD.

I would like to get some land in Texas or Missouri, move there and follow my occupation of teaching. Will some member of the HOUSEHOLD who lives in one of the states please correspond with me on this subject? Address M. W. TOWNSEND, Hurricane Corners, Grant county, Wis.

Inquiries.

Please send more recipes for candy and rugs. Will "Black Hills Blue Bell" please send directions for making rose leaf lace and inserting.—A READER.

Will some one be so kind as to send directions for knitting fine silk mits for summer wear? Will the editor please tell me when the twentieth century begins?—EVA E. BROGAN.

The twentieth century begins upon the first of January, 1900.—ED.

I want to know what will prevent my hair from falling out. It seems healthy, is soft and glossy, but comes out by handfuls. I want to know very badly or I would not trouble you, and you are sure to know. Acetic acid will cure corns. Perhaps it will affect chilblains likewise.—SUSIE COOPER.

Look over back numbers of the BLADE and you will find several remedies given, but perhaps some one may give a new one. Meanwhile wash your head with warm water in which you have thrown a little salt, and brush it until dry. If it comes out too much in brushing it, rub a little Jamaica rum over the scalp after washing, and then pat the hair gently until it is dry. Brush the hair a great deal so as to get up a glow in the scalp. Do these things carefully. All recipes may fail because it is hard to tell what the trouble proceeds from. It may be purely a physical trouble, located in some other part of the body, which must be cured before the hair will be better.—ED.

Will the lady who described a table cloth, (some time ago) to be made of fashion drapery, tell me what the goods is? I have asked for it at the stores and the merchants do not know it by that name.—S. J. B., Decatur, Ill.

Fashion drapery is double-faced Canton flannel, which comes in all colors.—ED.

Will some good sister tell how to make apple dumplings that will be nice and light? Also how to make dressing for roast turkey or chicken?—BRIDGET.

Will some reader of the BLADE please tell me how to color furs black; also how to stuff birds; if chemicals are used; if so, what and why?—INQUIRER.

Will "Moss Rose" please inform me through the BLADE how much sulphur and castor oil should be used in one pint of alcohol in the preparation for the hair mentioned in last week's BLADE?—MADGE, Clarkson, O.

Can any one of the HOUSEHOLD tell me how to treat smilax, the kind of soil, should it have much sun, etc.? It is a most beautiful vine, and I am very anxious to succeed.—VINET.

Will some of the HOUSEHOLD please tell how to color grassts for a bouquet? The colors I want are green, blue, red, sky-blue, buff or orange.—A SUBTCRIBER.

Can any one tell what will cure a small sore that has been running for over three years? It first came from mumps, and the lumps worked their way down under the chin and broke and have been running ever since.—BENJAMIN AND MARY LOUIS.

Will some one give a recipe for making mucilage out of white glue, also tell me how to efface indelible ink if it can be done?—E. M.

My skin is soft and smooth, but I have been greatly troubled by the recent appearance of moles. What would some of your readers suggest that would stop their further growth and effectually remove them? What are comedones and their cure?—P. Y. W.

Answers to Inquiries.

Tell M. A. that I have been an equal sufferer with himself with frosted feet, and my only permanent relief was a lot of soft boiled beans, bound around my feet for two successive nights. I have suffered no more from itching in my feet in the last ten years, and the previous ten years or more had itching most every winter night.—M. L. CONGER.

Have knit some "warm mittens," as given by Kitty Cling, and they are nice; also, commenced a pair given by Mrs. Grantham, but in the second row it says, k—1—k 5, and if that is right, why does it not say knit 6?

When door sills get worn in the center and make cold feet, cover a board with woolen cloth, loosely put on, and lay by the door. It slides away when the door is opened, better than mat or carpet.—S. A.

B. L. N., in BLADE of January 15, 1885, wants to know whether it is right for a woman to speak in church. I, for one, think it is right for a woman to speak anywhere; but the Bible does hold a kind of limit toward woman, (especially married), of speaking in church. You will find New Testament authority in 1st Corinthians, 14th chap. 34th and 35th verses, 1st Timothy, 2d chap., 11th and 12th verses.—B. F.

A recipe for St. Anthony's Dance that is a sure cure: 1 oz. of stramonium seed, 1 oz. of opium; ½ oz. castor; 1 pint gin. Direction for use: Give 8 drops the first day. Increase 1 drop a day until 50 drops are given. Repeat if necessary, beginning with 8 drops. Give Rhubarb for cathartic if necessary. One-half of the recipe made at a time will cure any ordinary case.—C. A. D., East Roy, Wyoming county, N. Y.

In the BLADE of January 29, some one asked what day of the week December 8, 1848, came on. It came on Friday.—J. A. JOHNSTON.

Tell "School Boy" and the lady that has cracks in her fingers to try vaseline. It will allay and cure all inflammation and sores that are in the flesh, but if they are caused by an impure state of the blood no outward application will do any good excepting to relieve.—MISS L.

Say to those wanting a cure for chilblains that sweet oil is a certain cure. I have tried it and know whereof I speak. Try it and report.—JIM.

In reply to "Michigan Teacher," I would say that the demand is increasing for trained and experienced teachers in this (Southern Illinois,) section of the Union. Wages range from $30 to $75 per month. Yes, I am one of that number who are striving to obtain a higher education. My idea is, to go to a normal school, after my school is taught here. By so doing, I can advance in my education, and thereby have my salary increased. Please come again, "Michigan Teacher." Let us hear from other teachers on the subject.—ILLINOIS TEACHER.

In response to "Bessie's" inquiry about "doing up" fine shirts, I will explain: Dry without any starching; dissolve 1 tablespoonful of the best starch to each bosom; leave half raw; cook the other half 15 minutes, adding boiling water until rather thin; add to this boiling starch ½ tablespoonful carbon oil (to prevent it sticking to the iron) also a lump of paratine as large as ½ of a medium sized nutmeg: take from the fire and let it cool enough to handle comfortably, then add the raw starch (which will turn it white;) rub this into the bosom thoroughly, completely saturating every thread of the linen, else the polish will not be uniform, stretching crosswise. Roll up for half an hour; iron first lightly with a cloth over the bosom, then without as dry as possible. Hang up, dry thoroughly, put back on the hard side of the board, rub lightly with a wet cloth and polish with a regular polishing iron, using the rounded edge of the iron and rubbing across the bosom, not up and down, and if Bessie has a husband she will have access to his heart right through his shirt bosom.—MRS. E. V.

If "Prairie Flower" will send her address to Mrs. E. S. Carlisle, Minneota, Minn., she will send her a pattern that is pretty for a scrap quilt.

If you will allow me a small space in the HOUSEHOLD department I will give you a valuable remedy for disease of the liver and kidneys; Take 2 ozs. each of hops, dandelion, extract prickly ash bark, boxwood and buchu, steep two hours in three quarts of water. Cover tight. When cool, strain and add ½ pt. alcohol and if the bowels are in the least constipated add ½ oz. extract of mandrake. Dose 1 tablespoonful three times a day. I know of two cases that were considered hopeless with diseased kidneys that were cured by this remedy, and as for myself it has done more for me than physicians or any patent medicine. Some poor sufferer please try and report.—MRS. ALLEN OLMSTEAD, Portland, Mich.

Recipes.

Swiss Cream. One pt. of cream, 2 slices of lemon peel, lump sugar, juice of 2 lemons, ¼ lb. of macaroons, a little sherry wine. Boil the cream with the slices of lemon peel, and pour into a bowl with a little crushed lump sugar. When quite cool, add the juice of lemons. Soak the macaroons in a little sherry wine, and pour the cream over them.—ELLA.

Chocolate Caramels.—1½ lbs. brown sugar, ¼ lb. butter, 1 cupful cream, ¼ cake Baker's chocolate scraped down; boil from 15 to 20 minutes or half an hour; just before taking off the fire add 2 tablespoonfuls essence of vanilla.—MUCH PLEASED.

Delicate Cake.—One cupful sugar, ½ cupful butter, 1½ cupful flour, ½ cupful corn starch, ½ cupful sweet milk and whites of 4 eggs. Flavor to taste. Two teaspoonfuls baking powder.—N. S.

Lemon Sponge Cake.—6 eggs, 3 cupfuls flour, 3 cupfuls sugar, 3 teaspoonfuls baking powder, ½ cupful cold water, put in last. Bake in layers, and ice with the whites of 3 eggs and 3 cupfuls of pulverized sugar. Flavor with lemon extract or oil of lemon.

Sauce for Plumb or Boiled Pudding.—1 egg, ⅔ cupful sugar, small lump butter, 1 pt. sweet milk, 1 tablespoonful corn starch. Make same as corn starch. Flavor with nutmeg and vanilla.—THOMASENE.

Bavarian Egg Pudding.—Beat 2 ozs. of butter to a cream, and stir in the yolk of 3 eggs, with 1 oz. of powdered sugar; mix 2 tablespoonfuls of good yeast with 1 teacupful of lukewarm milk; add this to the above. Having warmed 1 lb. of fine flour, stir this in by degrees; the mass should be as thick as a light bread dough. Beat it well and set it to rise; then dredge a pasteboard with plenty of flour. Form, with light handling, egg-sized rolls, and set them to rise a second time on the board. Put 2 ozs. of butter and the same of loaf sugar in a stewpan, with milk enough to cover the bottom nearly an inch deep; let this boil by the time the dough has risen; place carefully in the stewpan as many as it will hold without crowding. Bake them in the oven or over a clear fire, with red coals on the lid. Half an hour should bake them sufficiently.—MRS. L. H.

Lemon Pie With One Crust.—Two lemons; grate off the outer peel; chop the rest very fine; put 2 tablespoonfuls of corn starch in 1 teacupful of hot water and boil; when cool add 2 teacupfuls of white sugar; the beaten yolks of four eggs; then add the chopped peel and the juice: stir well together; bake till the crust is done—only one crust; beat the whites of the 4 eggs to a stiff froth; add 5 tablespoonfuls of sugar, stirring in well; pour over the pie while hot; set in the oven to brown.—MRS. H.

Our Young Folks.

THE LIGHT THAT IS FELT.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

> A tender child of summers three,
> Seeking her little bed at night,
> Paused on the dark stair timidly.
> "Oh, mother; take my hand," said she,
> "And then the dark will all be light."
>
> We older children grope our way
> From dark behind to dark before;
> And only when our hands we lay,
> Dear Lord, in Thine, the night is day
> And there is darkness nevermore.
>
> Reach downward to the sunless days
> Wherein our guides are blind as we,
> And faith is small and hope delays;
> Take Thou the hands of prayer we raise,
> And let us feel the light of Thee!

—*John G. Whittier, in the Christmas St. Nicholas.*

GROWN-UP LAND.

> Good-morrow, fair maid, with lashes brown,
> Can you tell me the way to Womanhood Town?
>
> Oh, this way and that way—never a stop,
> 'Tis picking up stitches grandma will drop,
> 'Tis kissing the baby's troubles away,
> 'Tis learning that cross words never will pay,
> 'Tis helping mother, 'tis sewing-up rents,
> 'Tis reading and playing, 'tis saving the cents,
> 'Tis loving and smiling, forgetting to frown,
> Oh, that is the way to Womanhood Town.
>
> Just wait my brave lad—one moment I pray,
> Manhood Town lies where—can you tell the way?
>
> Oh, by toiling and trying we reach that land—
> A bit with the head, a bit with the hand,
> 'Tis by climbing up the steep hill Work,
> 'Tis by keeping out of the wide street Shirk,
> 'Tis by always taking the weak one's part,
> 'Tis by giving the mother a happy heart,
> 'Tis by keeping bad thoughts and actions down,
> Oh, that is the way to Manhood's Town.
>
> And the lad and the maiden ran hand in hand
> To their fair estates in Grown-up Land.

"O UNCLE PHILIP!"

BY ALICE WELLINGTON ROLLINS.

"We're going to keep a horse this summer," said Arthur Shaw, proudly, at recess one day.

"Oh, that isn't anything!" replied Willie Leslie. "We're going to keep a prairie!"

"What's a prairie?"

"Oh, it's a big flat place, where they keep about 40 horses, and 60 cows, and a hundred pigs, and five hundred dogs, and a thousand sheep, and a million hens, and—"

Then Willie paused; his knowledge of arithmetic did not extend beyond millions, and he had no intention of lowering his estimates.

It was quite true; Uncle Philip had bought a ranch in Kansas several years before, and had represented life there as so delightful that Mr. Leslie was going to take the entire family thither for the summer, and Willie, indeed, was to go back with his Uncle Philip in February.

"Do you have birthdays on a ranch, Uncle?" inquired Willie, when told that he might go.

"Yes, we have birthdays," said Uncle Philip; "but I'm not so sure about our having birthday cake."

"Then I shall have my birthday before I go," said Master Willie, emphatically.

"And is your front door cut in halves, like those at Newport, so that Lilian can put on a long dress and lean out over the lower half and look down the road—*so?*" said Fred, illustrating by leaning over the back of a large arm chair in the attitude of one of Raphael's angels.

"It's all right about the door, but I'm afraid she couldn't look down the road; it's too far away."

"How far is it to the gate?"

"There isn't any gate."

"Then how do you get out from the fence?"

"There isn't any fence."

"Then what keeps the animals in?"

"Oh, the herders. We have no trees to make lumber of, and wood is so high that it costs more to build a fence than to hire a man to look after the herd."

"But you have to feed a man," suggested Fred, mindful of what he had been told about the first cost of a horse being a small part of the expense.

"Certainly; but you have to keep a fence in repair. And where eggs are ten cents a dozen, butter fifteen cents a pound, and chickens a dollar and a half a dozen, it is cheaper to feed a man on poultry and custard than to mend a fence. Besides, Fred, how long do you suppose it would take us to put a fence around the ranch, if we had the lumber?"

"Would it take a month?"

"A month? Well, let me see! it is a little hard to calculate, but as a rough guess, I should think, with a force of 50 men, we might get around it in about five years. That is, if we didn't stop to paint it."

"O Uncle Philip!"

"Sometimes we put a wire fence around a small pasture of a hundred acres or so; but you will see that it is much simpler on the whole to keep a man walking around the flocks of sheep than to shut them up inside a fence; especially as we haven't any trees to make a fence."

"Then," said Lilian, thoughtfully, "that must be what they mean in the Bible by '*men as trees walking*.' But I can have a flower-garden, Uncle Philip?"

"Certainly, if you can make fifty or a hundred acres do for one; I don't think I could spare more than that for ornamental purposes. But you can have plenty of flowers if you don't have a flower garden, you know. You can't walk anywhere on the prairie without stepping on a flower."

"O Uncle Philip!"

"And you can pick up vases for them, too—great hollow stones that will hold water and make the prettiest vases in the world for a room with a Kansas breeze blowing through it that would shiver glass vases to atoms in a few minutes."

"I know there are some very pretty flowers on the prairies," said Lilian, condescendingly. "But, all the same, I should like a few of the home ones. If I could take out a few sunflower seeds——"

Here Uncle Philip threw back his head and indulged in a very hearty laugh.

"My dear young lady, when the sunflower season arrives I will harness up my carriage and pair and drive you through twenty acres of them in one field. It will be hard work to pull through, but the horses will trample down the stalks ahead of us, and when they spring up behind us again, after we have driven over them, no one will know where we are, for they will tower three or four feet above our heads as we sit in the carriage or on horseback."

"O Uncle Philip!"

"And now that I think of it, perhaps we'd better have the sunflower bed fenced in; for if baby Nora should stray in there, you would never find her again."

"Uncle Philip," said Willie, fixing his eyes sternly on his uncle's face, as he had seen his mother do sometimes when anxious to elicit not only the truth, but the whole truth, "how big is the whole thing, anyway?"

"Willie, I object to having my ranch alluded to disrespectfully as the *thing*. The pasture in it is about as large as Central Park; the lawn, where I suppose Lilian will wish to have her tennis and croquet and things, is about as large as Prospect Park in Brooklyn; and the 'whole thing,' as you call it, is about eight times as large as both parks put together."

"O Uncle Philip!"

When Willie finally left with his uncle to find out for himself exactly how much of these wonderful stories was true, Mamma was very quiet for a day or two. She was not so sure as Papa and Uncle Philip seemed to be that her boy would like "roughing it," and she was afraid no one would remember to look in at night to see if he were warmly covered up. She waited anxiously for his first letter; she was quite sure, whatever he might say in it, that she should know if he were really homesick.

When the letter came, it was a postal card, and read as follows:

"When you cum out here, plese bring me a prezent of sum collars for two puppy-dogs."

He did not say a word about being happy or unhappy, but Mamma was so clever that she said she was quite satisfied about it all, and she was never heard to worry again about the extra blanket at night. When the second letter came, it was another postal card, which read thus:

"DEAR PAPA: I've bawt a horse. He is a Good Horse. I pade thirty dollars for him. I havn't bawt him to ride, but to speculate. You no you sed you would by me a horse, and Ide like to sell you this one for me to ride. You can hav him for fifty dollars. Uncle Filip sez fifty dollars is cheap for horses. He sez you will find it a bargin. And I cood keep the horse I like and make twenty dollars on him. Uncle Filip sez it isn't offen that a bargin is a bargin for both sides. Let me no if you want to by him on these condishuns. Your affekshionet son,

"WILLIAM G. LESLIE."

Two months later, the entire family started to join Willie at the ranch. The first day's journey was very lovely, on the Pennsylvania Central railroad, through the Susquehanna valley and among the Alleghany mountains.

"But I don't see any 'chinery, Papa," complained little Nora, after gazing steadily out of the window.

They could not imagine at first what Nora meant; but they discovered at last that having heard them talk a great deal about the "beautiful *scenery*" that they were to see from the cars, she had supposed them to mean beautiful "machinery," such as Papa had shown her once at the American Institute exhibition.

Behind them in the cars sat a gentleman, who, Mamma whispered, was Mark Twain.

"But he hasn't said a single funny thing all the way," complained Lilian on the second morning; "for I've been listening all the time."

"Of course he hasn't," explained Fred. "He keeps his funny things for his books."

"And perhaps," suggested Lilian, "he is waiting to hear *us* say something funny, to put that in his book. But I certainly shan't;" and Lilian closed her lips with unusual emphasis, lest a witticism should escape unawares.

"*Will* he put us in his book, do you think, Papa?" asked Nora, anxiously.

"Well, it is just possible he may say something about a little girl who couldn't find any machinery in the mountains," said Papa, slyly.

Late in the afternoon of the third day, they stepped from the cars at last, to find Uncle Philip waiting with the carriage, a big team for the luggage, and Willie prancing about on the horse he had "bawt."

"Mamma," said he, solemnly, "it's all true!"

"What is true, my son?"

"Everything that Uncle Philip said!"

And away he cantered, or "loped," as they call it in Kansas. The visitors exclaimed at the beauty of the prairie; for, although it was very early in the season, and the trees had been still leafless when they left New York, the prairie wild flowers were already in blossom, and as far as the eye could see, the grass was studded with brilliant portulacca.

"It must be God's flower garden, Mamma," whispered Nora; "for I don't think any one else could plant so many."

"What is that village in the distance, Philip?" asked Mrs. Leslie, when they had been driving about ten minutes.

"Willie," called his uncle, "your mother wishes to know what that village is in the distance?"

Willie almost rolled from his horse in his amusement.

"It isn't a village, Mary," explained Mr. Leslie. "It's a fort. I can see the main buildings of stone, and the American flag floating from the top. Fort Harker, I presume. Isn't it Fort Harker, Philip?"

"Willie," again called his uncle, "your father says it isn't a village, but a fort. He thinks it must be Fort Harker!"

This time they were quite sure Willie would fall from his horse in the ecstacy of his amusement.

"Why, Papa, that is the ranch! and the flag is our flag!"

"I bought that flag in New York," explained Uncle Philip, "the day Lilian told me that the young ladies in her school, who expected to correspond with her this summer, wanted to know what the postage to Kansas was. I can't have my nephews and nieces think that in coming to see me they are expatriating themselves from the land of the free and home of the brave."

The many buildings on the ranch—the stables, corrals, sheep-sheds, hen houses, tool-house, piggery, water-tower, windmill, cook-house, and so on—did, indeed, give the appearance of a thriving little village; and as Mamma entered the comfortable dwelling-house, she laughed to remember her fears about Willie's "roughing it" and having, perhaps, no extra blanket on cold nights. Next to her room was a cheery little room for Nora; but as the little girl had never slept quite alone, before, they were not surprised to hear a little voice in the night calling:

"Mamma, are you there?"

Mamma answered in person, and as she smoothed the pillow, said:

"You know it is very foolish to call anybody up in the night, Nora, unless you really want something."

"I did want something, Mamma; I wanted you."

"But if you wake up, you must turn over and go to sleep again. That is the way I do. I never call anybody."

"I know you don't now," said Nora wistfully. "Didn't you call anybody when you were a baby?"

Mamma did not make any direct reply, but busied herself with the coverlet.

The next night Nora slept till morning; a little surprised at not being praised for this feat at the breakfast table, she inquired, gravely:

"Mamma, did you hear me *not call* you last night?"

Now began long and happy days for them all—days full of excitements so varied that at the end of the summer, Fred declared that he had not been terrying, and he had not had a sail; but he believed he had done everything else that a boy could do to have a good time. Each of them had a pony, and after the long, delicious gallops on the prairie, with the soft grass under their ponies' feet, not a stick or a stone in the path to make them stumble, with the wild, free breeze blowing in their faces, and no need to slacken speed lest a carriage or a bicycle should be coming around the corner, they were quite sure they could never *endure* to ride in a park again, and the thought of pacing solemnly around and around in a ring at the riding-school was simply intolerable. Willie, of course, appreciated at its true value his superior experience, and found it especially delightful to know more than Mamma about some things, at last. "Just think, Uncle Philip!" was his favorite exclamation, "Mamma thought that flock of sheep was a hedge fence!" or, "Uncle Philip! Uncle Philip! just look at Mamma, out on the range with a parasol! Isn't she a 'tender-foot!'"

One amusement was watching the great flocks of sheep with the merry little lambs go in and out of the corrals night and morning. Then came the excitement of shearing-time, and loading the great wagons with heavy bags of wool to be sent to New York and Boston. There were fewer wild flowers as the summer heat increased; but after the wild flowers came the great harvests of grain, and the children—the elders, too, for that matter—were never weary of watching the wonderful machines, almost human in their intelligence, so it seemed, that cut the grain, tying it into bundles as it accumulated, or threshed the rich wheat from the useful chaff. The hay-fields—and Uncle Philip expected to cut two thousand tons of hay that summer—were, many of them, so far from the home ranch that the men had a complete camping outfit, not to waste time going back and forth for their meals. Of the delights of visiting that camp, I forbear to write, lest those of you who, poor things, are obliged to spend the summer at Newport or Mount Desert should have your simple pleasures spoiled for you by the comparison. Then there were picnics at the great cave, beautifully shaded with great trees along the creek, where wonderful Indian hieroglyphics were found, and when the gentlemen—as the shooting season began, and they scattered over the prairie for prairie-chicken, quail, plover, or duck—were glad to come together for afternoon tea, made from Mrs. Leslie's urn. And at last, just before they were going home, they had one of the genuine prairie excitements.

They all had been dining at Elk Horn ranch—the charming home of their nearest neighbors,—and as they rose from the table smoke was seen in the distance. Experienced eyes, however, pronounced that it was nothing alarming, and they all sat on the piazza for another hour. When at last the horses were brought around, they had hardly driven a quarter of a mile, before a man without any hat met them on horseback, shouting:

"You can not get home, Mr. Leslie! The fire is raging for miles between here and your house!"

"But I *must* get home!" shouted Uncle Philip, as he gave the whip to his horses. They were only four miles from their own house, but between raged a sea of prairie fire!

It was a terrible sight, as they approached the place where flames began to be visible. Of course there were no towering buildings with roofs ablaze and cracking walls, and they had no fear of any lives being in danger; but to see acres of low grass all aflame, like a lake of fire miles in extent, was a thrilling sight in itself, even if one were not wondering what might be happening at the dear home just beyond. Uncle Philip drove to a little patch of plowed ground, waiting there with the smoke and cinders almost blinding their eyes, and the fearful wind almost blowing them from the carriage, till the flames had passed over a strip of land wide enough for the horses to pass through. Then, on and on, as fast as the excited animals could run, waiting from time to time on little squares of plowed ground, till they came to a strip of furious flame, which did not seem to yield, even after waiting ten or fifteen minutes. "I *must* go to my sheep!" exclaimed Uncle Philip, and in another moment they were driving straight through and over the flaming grass! It did not last long, of course; but they drove home at a furious pace, to find that the fire had paused about a mile from the house, though all the men on the ranch were at work there, beating down the flames with old blankets, branches of trees, and even old clothes dipped in water. It was a fierce struggle; and they worked till late into the evening before they could feel that house and crops and "range" were at last quite safe.

"You look like Meg Merrilies, Mamma," said Lilian, as she tried to smooth her mother's flying wraps and disordered hair. "A prairie fire is dreadful. But then I suppose a cyclone would have been worse!"

"What is a cyclone?" inquired Nora.

"It is a terrible storm, my little girl," explained Uncle Philip. "And if it should make up its mind to take you with it to Kansas City, it would carry you there faster than any railway train you ever saw."

"O Uncle Philip!"—*St. Nicholas.*

* * * * Rupture radically cured, also pile tumors and fistulas. Pamphlet of particulars two letter stamps. World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

The Sunday School.

Paul Sent to Felix.

LESSON 9, SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 1885.

Golden Text—If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed.—1 Pet. 4: 16.

LESSON TEXT.

Acts 23: 12-24.

12. And when it was day, certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul.
13. And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy.
14. And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat nothing until we have slain Paul.
15. Now therefore, ye with the council signify to the chief captain that he bring him down unto you to-morrow, as though ye would inquire something more perfectly concerning him; and we, or ever he come near, are ready to kill him.
16. And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle and told Paul.
17. Then Paul called one of the centurions unto him and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain, for he hath a certain thing to tell him.
18. So he took him and brought him to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner called me unto him, and prayed me to bring the young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee.
19. Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went with him aside privately, and asked him, What is that thou hast to tell me?
20. And the said, the Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldst bring down Paul to-morrow unto the council, as though they would inquire somewhat of him more perfectly.
21. But do not yield unto them, for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him; and now they are ready looking for a promise from thee.
22. So the chief captain then let the young man depart, and charged him, See thou tell no man that thou hast shewed these things unto me.
23. And he called unto him two centurions, saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Cesarea, and horsemen three score and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night;
24. And provide them beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring him safe unto Felix the governor.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

The Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse (v. 12.) In union there is strength, strength for evil as well as strength for good; and many a man will consent to wrong doing in a ring, or in a corporation, or in a society of which he is a member, when he never would think of consenting to that evil if he were all by himself in action. We have no need to go back to the days of the apostles for illustrations of this evil spirit. Instances of it abound in the European Nihilists, and the international dynamiters, and the gangs of robbers for both political and material plunder, in our American cities and in our American borders; all of whom exhibit everything that was evil in the course of the Jewish zealots, without the mitigating feature of an honest conviction, or of an accord with the prevalent spirit of the age. There is a timeliness in this Bible illustration of this accursed spirit of secret conspiring in an unholy brotherhood against law and religion, and against life and decency.

They would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul. Self-denial is not always a proof a noble spirit. Temperance or abstinence may be a result of a selfish mind and an evil purpose. Men will often yield a lesser gain for the sake of a greater one; and men sometimes call evil their good, and so make personal sacrifices in order to attain to evil. It is said that bank-robbers and house-breakers are total abstainers while in training for crime; for they know that even moderate drinking excites or befogs the brain, so as to forbid its freest and cleverest work. That shows that they have more good sense than a wine-drinking or a tobacco-using clergyman, who supposes that he can work better with an abnormal brain, but it doesn't show that their general purposes are as commendable as his. Whether one eats or fasts, drinks or abstains, does not in itself settle the question of his relation to God's work, and of his prevailing purposes of life.

They came to the chief priests and the elders, and said, We have . . . Now therefore, do ye (vs. 14, 15.) Many persons who would not themselves commit a crime, can be induced to have a share in the results of crime. These days are not so different from those days, in that particular. There are railroad stockholders who would not themselves attempt bribery, who will accept a dividend on stock which has been made profitable through a bribery of the Legislature for its advantage. There are bank stockholders who will share without a protest the proceeds of a guilty compromise made by the bank officials with bank-robbers for the recovery of stolen funds. And there are Christian voters who will vote for a corrupt man in city councils or in the legislature, because his corrupt ways increase the value of real estate, or improve the health and comfort of the community. The Jewish conspirators knew something about human nature, when they went to the chief priests and elders and said, All we ask of you is to get Paul into the open street; then we'll see to it that he never troubles you again.

Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, and he came and told Paul (v. 16.) That young nephew of Paul has but a very small place in history, but he had a good deal to do with shaping history. We don't even know his name, but we do know that his alertness and his activity were the means of saving Paul's life, and so of continuing Paul's work—with all its onflowing results to this day and henceforward through eternity. It is a great thing for any man, young or old, to do what he can, and to do it as well as he can. His name may be lost sight of, but his work—as a co-worker with God—shall endure forever. There is encouragement and there is inspiration, in this truth, for every worker for God in even the humblest of spheres.

One of the centurions brought him to the chief captain, and saith, Paul, the prisoner, asked me to bring this young man unto thee (vs. 17, 18.) The Roman centurions who figure in the New Testament story appear to advantage—all of them. It was a centurion of whom the Jews said, "He is worthy," and of whom Jesus said, "I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel." It was a centurion who testified of Jesus in his dying hour, "Truly this was the Son of God." It was to a righteous man, a praying and an alms-giving centurion, that Peter was sent of God as the first-fruits for Christ and of the Gentile world. It was a centurion who treated Paul kindly, and who "gave him leave to go unto his friends and refresh himself," while a prisoner in his charge on his way to Rome, and again who interposed his authority to save Paul's life, when it was endanged at the time of the wreck at Melita. And here, again, we find the centurion recognizing the rights of his prisoner, and acting for his welfare. There is a noble element in the soldier life, which is again and again commended in the New Testament teachings. Any one who was a military prisoner on either side of the lines during our civil war, will testify that he was always best treated while in the hands of soldiers; and those who were soldiers on opposite sides in that conflict know nothing now of the personal bitterness which is often manifested by mere politicians or by other non-combatants. Paul understood the good side of the soldier character; therefore he says to each one of us: "Take up the whole armor of God," and "suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus." We shall do well if we have all of the soldierly virtues, and none of the soldierly vices.

Do not thou yield unto them (v. 21.) The lesser can counsel the greater—for good or for ill. The blood-thirsty enemies of Paul could go to the chief priests and the elders, and say, Therefore, do ye do evil, and their counsel seems to have prevailed. The greater yielded to the lesser. And now the loving young nephew of Paul could go to the chief captain of the Roman forces and say, Do not therefore yield to evil counsel. And again the greater yields to the lesser. The power of giving a word of wise and timely counsel is not limited to the great. It belongs to those of every condition and sphere in life. And the whole course of history often pivots on a word fitly spoken, or spoken sinfully. How much depends on what we say to others in counsel! Therefore "let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."—*H. Clay Trumbull, in Sunday School Times.*

YOUNG MEN—READ THIS.

THE VOLTAIC BELT CO., of Marshall, Mich., offer to send their celebrated ELECTRO VOLTAIC BELT and other ELECTRIC APPLIANCES on trial for thirty days, to men (young or old) afflicted with nervous debility, loss of vitality and manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also for rheumatism neuralgia, paralysis, and many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk is incurred, as thirty days trial is allowed. Write them at once for illustrated pamphlet free.

NO POISON
IN THE PASTRY
IF

ARE USED.
Vanilla, Lemon, Orange, etc., flavor Cakes, Creams, Puddings, &c., as delicately and naturally as the fruit from which they are made.
FOR STRENGTH AND TRUE FRUIT FLAVOR THEY STAND ALONE.
PREPARED BY THE
Price Baking Powder Co.,
Chicago, Ill. St. Louis, Mo.
MAKERS OF
Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder
—AND—
Dr. Price's Lupulin Yeast Gems,
Best Dry Hop Yeast.
FOR SALE BY GROCERS.
WE MAKE BUT ONE QUALITY.

LIGHT HEALTHY BREAD

DR. PRICE'S LUPULIN YEAST GEMS
The best dry hop yeast in the world. Bread raised by this yeast is light, white and wholesome like our grandmother's delicious bread.
GROCERS SELL THEM.
PREPARED BY THE
Price Baking Powder Co.,
Man'f'rs of Dr. Price's Special Flavoring Extracts,
Chicago, Ill. St. Louis, Mo.

Causes of Hard Times.

Business men everywhere seem to be in a quandary as to the cause of the present hard times. The question is easily answered. Multiply nine hundred millions of dollars for five or ten years, which has been paid out, sucked up and locked up in a business which has produced crime, misery and poverty to such a degree of impoverishment of the people as to cause an underconsumption of bread, meat, dry goods, clothing, etc., and left on our production of the necessaries of life. More than this millions of children in rags, and hardly a family in the United States but what has been injured, and this same power is creeping and growing around every Legislature and every Congress to prevent the enactments of righteous laws, and their enforcement when enacted.

The Root of the Evil.

To thoroughly cure scrofula it is necessary to strike directly at the root of the evil. This is exactly what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, by acting upon the blood, thoroughly cleansing it of all impurities, and leaving not even a taint of scrofula in the vital fluid. Thousands who have been cured of scrofula by Hood's Sarsaparilla, testify to its wonderful blood-purifying qualities. Sold by all druggists.

Another Sun Storm.

Another solar storm is reported to have broken out in the sun's northern hemisphere a little to the east of the meridian. It embraces a vast region marked by the rapid formation of spots. On Thursday, February 5, the disturbance was at its height. Coincident with it was the increased energy of barometric depression noticed throughout the Northwest, giving warning of the snow storm of Saturday and Sunday. The connection of solar disturbances with meteorological changes has passed beyond the limits of dispute, and is one of the accepted facts of science. It yet remains to utilize it in the domain of weather prophecy.

What can be more disagreeable, more disgusting, than to sit in a room with a person who is troubled with catarrh, and has to keep coughing and clearing his or her throat of the mucus which drops into it? Such persons are always to be pitied if they try to cure themselves and fail. But if they get Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy there need be no failure.

The Birthplace of the Monsoon.

In the plains of India, at the commencement of the monsoon, storms occur in which the lightning runs like snakes all over the sky at the rate of three or four flashes in a second, and the thunder roars without a break for frequently one or two hours at a time. Yet it is very rare that any tree or animal is struck by the electric current. The explanation of this is the great depth of the stratum of heated air next the ground, which keeps the clouds at such a height that most of the flashes pass from cloud to cloud and very few reach the earth.

A Father's Protection.

Father, it is as essential for you to provide a safeguard against that night fiend to your children, croup, as to their hunger. Taylor's Cherokee Remedy of Sweet Gum and Mullein will cure croup, coughs and colds. Send 2c. stamp to Walter A. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga., for little Riddle Book, which is for the amusement of the children and welfare of home.

Feminine Logic.

Concerning the late Presidential election an American lady, said to be well known in London society, has thus, according to Mr. James Payn, epigrammatically delivered her opinion: "Since Mr. Blaine, it is said, is a little shaky in public life, but irreproachable in private life, and as Mr. Cleveland, it is said, is a little shaky in private life, but irreproachable in public life, it is surely right and proper that Mr. Cleveland should come out in public life and Mr. Blaine retire into private life." And yet men say women are not logical!—*Chicago News.*

—One in three says the late Dr. Clendening, show symptoms of Heart Disease. Why not use DR. GRAVES' HEART REGULATOR, it has cured thousands, why not you? $1.00 per bottle. Free pamphlet of F. E. Ingalls, Cambridge, Mass.

The executive committee of the New England tobacco growers' association adopted a memorial to Congress asking to have rates on imported tobacco fixed as asked by the New York association.

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THE GREAT
GERMAN REMEDY
FOR PAIN.
CURES
Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica,
Lumbago, Backache, Headache, Toothache,
Sore Throat, Swellings, Sprains, Bruises,
Burns, Scalds, Frost Bites,
AND ALL OTHER BODILY PAINS AND ACHES.
Sold by Druggists and Dealers everywhere. Fifty Cents a bottle.
Directions in 11 Languages.
THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO.
(Successors to A. VOGELER & CO.) Baltimore, Md., U. S. A.

LOSS AND GAIN.

CHAPTER I.

"I was taken sick a year ago
With bilious fever."

"My doctor pronounced me cured, but I got sick again, with terrible pains in my back and sides, and I got so bad I
Could not move!
I shrunk
From 228 lbs to 120! I had been doctoring for my liver, but it did me no good. I did not expect to live more than three months. I began to use Hop Bitters. Directly my appetite returned, my pains left me, my entire system seemed renewed as if by magic, and after using several bottles, I am not only as sound as a sovereign, but weigh more than I did before. To Hop Bitters I owe my life." R. FITZPATRICK.
Dublin, June 6, '81.

CHAPTER II.

"Malden, Mass., Feb. 1, 1880. Gentlemen—I suffered with attacks of sick headache."
Neuralgia, female trouble, for years, in the most terrible and excruciating manner.
No medicine or doctor could give me relief or cure until I used Hop Bitters.
"The first bottle
Nearly cured me;"
The second made me as well and strong as when a child,
"And I have been so to this day."
My husband was an invalid for twenty years with a serious
"Kidney, liver and urinary complaint,
"Pronounced by Boston's best physicians—
"Incurable!"
Seven bottles of your Bitters cured him, and I know of the
"Lives of eight persons"
In my neighborhood that have been saved by your Bitters.
And many more are using them with great benefit.
"They almost
Do miracles!" —*Mrs. E. D. Slack.*

How to get Sick.—Expose yourself day and night; eat too much without exercise; work too hard without rest; doctor all the time; take all the vile nostrums advertised, and then you will want to know *how to get well*, which is answered in three words—Take Hop Bitters!

None genuine without a bunch of green Hops on the white label. Shun all the vile, poisonous stuff with "Hop" or "Hops" in their name.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S
VEGETABLE COMPOUND
IS A POSITIVE CURE

For all of those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our best FEMALE POPULATION.

It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaints, all Ovarian troubles, Inflammation and Ulceration, Falling and Displacements, and the consequent Spinal Weakness, and is particularly adapted to the Change of Life.

It will dissolve and expel Tumors from the Uterus in an early stage of development. The tendency to Cancerous Humors there is checked very speedily by its use.

It removes Faintness, Flatulency, destroys all craving for stimulants, and relieves Weakness of the Stomach. It cures Bloating, Headaches, Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Sleeplessness, Depression and Indigestion.

That feeling of Bearing Down, causing Pain, Weight and Backache, is always permanently cured by its use.

It will at all times and under all circumstances act in harmony with the laws that govern the female system.

Its purpose is SOLELY for the legitimate healing of disease and the relief of pain, and that it does ALL it claims to do, thousands of ladies can gladly testify.

For the cure of Kidney Complaints in either sex this remedy is unsurpassed.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is prepared at Lynn, Mass. Price $1. Six bottles for $5. Sold by all druggists. Sent by mail, postage paid, in form of Pills or Lozenges on receipt of price as above. Mrs. Pinkham's "Guide to Health" will be mailed free to any Lady sending stamp. Letters confidentially answered.

No family should be without LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S LIVER PILLS. They cure Constipation, Biliousness and Torpidity of the Liver. 25 cents per box.

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions, answers and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Communications should be written legibly, and on one side of the paper only, and not on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany the communication.

Answers to Inquiries.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

J. H. F., Union City: Bone spavin in a horse is considered incurable. Careful handling so as to avoid straining and frequent rubbing will do more to keep the joint limber than anything else.

H. P. A. S., of Lynn, Ill., will send me his address I will send him instructions to make a cheap breeder.

The query of C. C., of Oakland, Ill., is rather hard to answer in some respects. There is a great difference in the milk of different cows as to the yield of butter. Cream, however, which is the only thing usually brought to the creamery, will average about two pounds of butter to the gallon. The cost of making varies with circumstances so much that it is hard to give definite figures. The process of making creamery butter is briefly as follows: The cream is gathered from the farms where the cows are kept by wagons, and taken to the creamery, where it is placed in large vats, where it is thoroughly commingled and allowed to "ripen" or attain the proper acidity, the proper temperature being kept by the addition of ice or surrounding the vat with warm water, as the weather may require. It is then churned in a square box churn, the average time being about one hour. At the proper time the coloring is added, and when the butter globules are fully formed the milk is drawn off and the butter well washed with cold water. It is then taken from the churn and salted and packed away in tubs.—W. G. Church, Clinton, Mo.

Peanuts.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

F. M. W., Cheney, Kansas, asks for the best method of raising peanuts—the kind of soil, amount needed for planting and time of planting.

Having cultivated the peanut in North Carolina, and also in this state, with success for a number of years, I will give a description of their cultivation, and my last method.

Soil—Sandy or dark loam, moderately rich. Will grow in heavy clay, but will grow much better in loose soil.

They should be planted in very small furrows, far enough apart to cultivate with a plow, and one to two feet in the rows, depending on the variety.

They should be hulled and one pea planted at a place, and covered about the same depth as garden peas or beans.

It is recommended to soak them the night before planting, in sweet milk. It facilitates the sprouting to soak them in something. The amount needed must depend on the size of the patch or the number of acres to be planted. A dozen peanuts with four seed in a hill can be planted in a row fifty feet or a hundred feet long.

The time of planting must vary with the season and climate. In the South they can be planted in April and May. Here I have never planted earlier than the middle of May, and as late as June 6. They should not be planted until the ground is fairly warm, as they are tender and liable to rot in the ground if it is cold and wet.

Fowls should not be allowed access to them until they have grown a week or two. The pea comes out of the ground just as beans do, and must be let alone until it drops off.

Fowls are apt to pick them off and injure the stalk.

Cultivate about the same as potatoes. Hoe them early. If the stocks are nearly covered with fine dirt while hoeing the young plants, all the better. They will grow faster. Plow and hoe the soil up around the stalks.

It is not necessary to cover the blossoms to make them bear. But it it will do no harm to cover the bloom.

The pea does not grow on the same stem that the blossom grows. But it is necessary that the stalks should bloom.

The stalks or vines send out other stems, which strike down into the ground, and on these the pea grows in the ground. Hence the old name—ground pea.

The looser and more mellow the soil is kept, the easier these stems will get into the soil.

Dig them in the fall before frost. Pull off the stems; wash and dry. Be sure they are dry before putting away. They are liable to mould. They are affected by the season and liable to failure, like any other crop or produce.

There are different varieties. One variety will spread over a hill six feet in circumference, and is a great producer. But it seldom has more than two peas in one hull. It is also late in maturing. The variety I have been growing is the best I have ever handled, and the only one that will mature in this latitude. The pea is clear white, with a bright pink red skin.

About one-half of the crop will produce three and four peas in one hull. The stalk does not spread over the ground, and the pea grows close around the roots.

Matures fully three weeks earlier than any other variety that I know of.

Last season I selected a number of fine stalks that yielded a pint each. I think they can be successfully grown in any climate that will produce corn. I raise a small patch every year, and find them very nice to roast on a stormy winter day and eat fresh.

Last season I staked off a sandy spot in one corner of a corn field to plant in peanuts. When I planted the corn, I drove the planter straight through the patch, but stopped the droper, making the rows uniform. Peanuts at one end, the rest in corn. When the peanuts were planted a small furrow was made in the planter row with a corner of a hoe, in which they were dropped by hand and covered with a hoe. They received the same culture that the corn did, except more attention with the hoe.

This description is intended for beginners.

I will have about a gallon of selected peanuts to spare, and will send to any reader of the BLADE who may desire a start of this variety—enough to plant a row 50 feet in length—on receipt of ten cents for postage and trouble.—A. L. NEWTON, Jasper Co., Ills.

Information Wanted

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

TEXAS FEVER.—Would it be safe to take improved American cattle into Texas? What are the advantages of Texas over Kansas as a farming and stock raising country to a new settler?—J. C. B.

HESSIAN FLY—Is there a book treating on the Hessian fly? If so, please tell where it may be secured.—S. J. H., Harrisburg, Pa.

Write to Brown, Eager & Co., Toledo, O.—ED.

CELERY—Where can I get a book on celery culture? Will you give me an account of the extensive culture of celery at Kalamazoo, Mich? How is it raised and prepared for market? What kinds do they raise, and where do they ship it to?—C. H. R., Cherokee, Iowa.

For the book, write to Brown, Eager & Co., Toledo, O.

SORGUM.—Will some one tell where sorgum seed can be procured? How and when is it planted? How long must it be grown from time it is sown until it is fit for making into sugar?—M. M. HARTER, Nescopeck, Pa.

POULTRY JOURNAL:—Will some one of the BLADE please give the names of some of the poultry papers published in the United States.—F. W. S., Tyngsboro, Mass.

You can borrow a newspaper directory from any editor in your town.—ED.

The Duck Profitable.

The duck, says an exchange, is peculiarly the poor man's bird, its hardiness renders it so entirely independent of that care which fowls perpetually require; and, indeed, all those classes of humble life who have sloppy offal of some sort left from their meals and do not keep a pig to consume it, ducks are the best save-waste for them. Even the refuse of potatoes or any other vegetables will, with a little bran meal, satisfy a duck, which it thankfully accepts, and, with a degree of good nature which it is pleasant to contemplate, swallows whatever is presented to it, and very rarely occasions trouble. Though fowls must be provided with a roof and decent habitation, and supplied with corn, which is costly, the cottage garden waste and snails and slugs which are generated there, with the kitchen scraps and offal, furnishes the hardy ducks with the means of subsistence. And at night they require no better lodging than a nook in an open shed. If a habitation be expressly made for them it need not necessarily be made more than a few feet in height nor of better materials than wattles and clay mortar, a door being useless, unless to secure them from thieves. It should be added that ducks should not be turned out in the morning until 8 or 9 o'clock, during the season of egg production, otherwise the eggs may be lost.

The Cheapest Mode.

It is not necessary to begin improvement with the purchase of a whole herd or flock. The cheapest is to buy a bull, a boar, or a ram, either alone or by clubbing in with a few neighbors. Once the animal is secured it may be sold when no longer serviceable and a second one bought with the assistance of the money secured by that derived from the sale of the first. Suppose a boar be bought for $20, though they may be purchased for less, and he became the sire of a dozen pigs. At only five cents a pound for pork the increase of weight of 50 pounds to each hog will more than pay the cost of the boar. That is, if only twelve pigs be procured from the boar (and there is no reason why there should not be 100) and each pig be 50 pounds heavier only, than a scrub, the gain will be 600 pounds, which, at only five cents a pound is $30. Thus it may be claimed that it really costs nothing at all to improve, and more especially so when the boar can be sold at any time for a fair price. We could easily make many such estimates but it is unnecessary. What we wish to impress on the reader is the fact that it costs less to raise a good animal than a bad one, and that there is no economy in breeding poor stock as long as good stock pays for the outlay itself.

Buttermilk for Pigs.

Among the numerous experiments made by those who have tested the feeding value of buttermilk and skim milk, it was fed to young pigs in the proportion of two ounces of meal to one quart of milk, subsequently increased to three ounces of meal. Corn meal costs $1.40 per 100 pounds and skim milk was valued at two cents per gallon. Buttermilk cost at the creamery 1.37 cents per gallon. Without giving the weekly table of feed and grain, we find the following results: Three pigs were fed in each lot, one lot with meal and skim milk and the other with meal and buttermilk, the same quantity of meal in each case and in the same proportion. With this feed in four months the gain was 187 pounds, average 1.56 pounds per day in one pig and nearly the same in others. One pig gained 241 pounds, or an average of over two pounds per day, live weight. The cost of dressed pork in the lot fed meal and skim milk was 5.8 cents per pound, and the lot fed buttermilk 4.6 cents. The difference in the cost is about the same as the difference in the cost of milk. Corn meal at $1.40 per 100 and skim milk at two cents per gallon produced pork in young pigs for 5.8 cents per pound dressed weight. Buttermilk was worth as much per gallon as skim milk, although the solids were much less in the former.

High or Low Ground for Orchards.

Prof. T. J. Burrill, of the Illinois Industrial university, is quoted as thinking that success in orchard culture does not depend upon planting trees upon high or low ground, but upon securing the conditions that maintain an abundant supply of moisture during the dry part of the season. All soil in Illinois is wet enough in spring. That which suffers least from summer drouth and autumn rains is most favorable to the apple. The second growth that takes place in fall, when abundant rains and warm weather follow severe drought, prove very injurious, as unripe wood, owing to its superabundance of sap, is much more subject to injury from frost than well ripened wood. But cold is not the only cause of the diseased trees so common in Illinois. The sun shining upon the trunk causes the corky envelop to dry and crack on that side, thus permitting the entrance of bacteria which increases the injury.

Wood Ashes in the Orchard.

Among the most common and most valuable of special manures I place wood ashes. The amount of ash and its relative composition vary with the part and kind of vegetable burned, but we may safely take the ash of the body of a beech tree as representing the average composition of wood ashes. One bushel of ashes represents about two and one-half tons of dry body wood. Wood ashes contain all the required elements of plant nutrition except nitrogen. One hundred pounds wood ashes contain sixteen pounds of potash worth 80 cents, 3¼ pounds of soda worth two cents; 67 pounds of lime and magnesia worth eight cents, and 5¼ pounds of phosphoric acid worth 26 cents. If we had to buy in market in the cheapest form the manurial materials contained in 100 pounds ashes the cost would be $1.16.—*Prof. Kedzie.*

—The surprising success of Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for the several diseases peculiar to women forcibly illustrates the importance of her beneficent discovery, and the fact that she knows how to make the most of it.—*Dr. Haskell.*

News of the Week.

INSANE ASYLUM HORROR.

A Night of Terror—300 Inmates in Danger—Damage to Property, $150,000.

A fire broke out in the insane department of the county almshouse in West Philadelphia Thursday night. The flames spread rapidly, and before the 300 inmates could be released eighteen of them burned to death. The others were left to roam about the grounds at will, and many of them were picked up by the police throughout the city.

The conflagration needed nothing to make it the most horrible disaster of the kind ever known in the history of Philadelphia. The fire originated in a wing of an old building in the insane department, which fronts towards the Schuylkill river and directly east of the main building of the almshouse. The wing is 145 feet front and 60 feet deep, and is connected on the south with the main building of the old structure of the insane department, which runs south 400 feet to a wing similar to the one in which the disaster occurred.

In this north building where the fire broke out there were 60 separate cells for violent persons—20 on each floor. In addition to this, there was a large room on each of the three floors in which cots for twelve men were placed, all of which were occupied when the fire broke out. On the second floor, opposite to the central cell of a row of separate cells on the north side of the corrider, which runs from east to west, was a dry room heated by steam. This room, which was about ten feet square, was directly alongside the middle stairway leading to the floor above and below. Here the flames originated, but from what cause is not known. At the time there were insane patients in each of the twenty cells on these floors. Ten in the large room on the first floor and twelve in each of the large rooms on the second and third floors. From all accounts to be obtained, it appears pretty certain, that the first alarm was given by the insane patient on the first floor of the main building.

One of the patients discovered the flames and ran to a big iron grated door, fronting on the main corridor of the building and cried out "Fire! Fire!" This fearful sound reached the ears of Jos. Shroeder, the attendant of the ground floor, who was in his room directly opposite the one from which the alarm had been given. Mrs. Umpstead, who has general charge at night, said it was about 8 o'clock when the alarm reached her. She was in her office about 200 feet from the dry room and at once hurried to the scene. She says that an attempt was made to put out the flames with buckets of water and at first it was supposed the flames were only burning from the ground floor near the stairway, but in an instant it was found the real point from which the danger came was the second floor at the top and above the dry room. She then hastened to get all the patients from the main building, extending back from the east wing.

Attendant Shroeder takes up the thread of the story at this point, and thus relates some of the horrors of the dreadful night:

"I do not know who sounded the alarm. As soon as I heard the cry of 'Fire!' I rushed to the foot of the stairway, and after a short attempt to check the fire at once set to work to get out the patients. First I unlocked the door of the room from whence the alarm came, and the occupants ran out at once. By this time the flames were gathering in a fury, and dense volumes of smoke were ascending into the upper story. I succeeded in unlocking all the doors of the cells on the first floors, and although with difficulty in some cases, I succeeded in getting the inmates out. I had no time to look after them further than to run them to the yard, for the flames were getting so fierce it was almost impossible to breathe in the now fiercely burning building. The smoke in the upper stories was so thick that breathing was impossible. While I was getting the men out below, Attendant W. Strain was doing the same for the inmates on the second floor. I met Hanna, the night watchman, who was also helping, and we went up to the third story, but were driven back by the flames, which had forced their way through the stairway and were creeping along to the cells of the doomed inmates. We ran around to the new stairway, near the new building on the west, and by that time some firemen had arrived. All of the inmates had been gotten out of the second story, so there remained about 28 on the third floor, twenty in cells and eight in a common room at the west end."

Following are the names and ages of the occupants in ward "M," near where the fire first started, all of whom are supposed to have been suffocated or burned to death, with the exception of three, who were rescued by the firemen: Frank D. Dechacon, 35; James McCoy, 40; John Lyden, 50; Isaac O'Neill, 35; Charles Scott (colored), 32; John Dwyer, 40; James Burk, 57; Thomas Rusk, 50; Michael Wroth, 36; Robert Cunningham, 45; Charles Nolenberger, 60; Thomas Jones, 54; John Herriges, 48; John Kochler, 60; Thomas Smith, 38; Edward Murphy, 48; Charles O'Brien, 36; P. Newburger, 60.

The damage to the property will amount to about $150,000.

John Herriges is the man who was discovered in 1870 in a shanty at Fourth and Lombard streets, where he had been confined in chains by his parents for twenty years.

John Burk has killed three of the inmates of the institution during the 22 years he was confined there, and for twenty years his hands were chained to his body.

Protective Tariff League.

The American Protective Tariff association met in New York Thursday, Henry L. Eckert, of Reading, Pa., president. Among those present were Thomas H. Dudley, New Jersey; Geo. Draper, Milford, Mass.; M. M. Bullong, E. H. Ammidown, W. M. Haight, Geo. E. Sharp, Legrand B. Cannon, D. V. R. Keim and E. M. and Henry T. Cook. The committee on permanent organization suggested that the name of the body be changed to "The National Protective Tariff League." Agreed to. A committee appointed to act as executive committee to report on the names of officers suggested that Mr. Dudley, who was made vice-president, act as president until the latter officer is selected. A. R. Whitney, of New York, was made temporary treasurer. A committee of three was appointed to draft an address to the public, setting forth the purposes of the league.

The Kentucky Hemp Crop.

A correspondent at Lexington, Ky., reports to Bradstreet's that the hemp factories in that city have averaged about eight months' business during this year. The stock of hemp now in the state is regarded as the lightest, with possibly one exception, in the past eighteen years. The stock in manufacturers' hands is said to be quite nominal. The new crop is variously estimated at from 25 to 40 per cent. short with 30 per cent. shortage the most popular estimate. The light crop was due to the scarcity of hemp seed in the spring and the fact that much hemp land was planted in tobacco, owing to the high prices ruling for the latter staple.

Better Times at Pittsburg.

Twenty per cent. of the idle coke ovens under control of the Pittsburg coke syndicate are to be fired up at once on the authorization of the syndicate. Ten thousand ovens are now in blast, and it is anticipated that by March 1, 5,000 will be running. This, together with the advance in price of coke, will give an impetus to the trade that will go far towards a boom.

The Boys in Blue.

The Grand Army Encampment of Pennsylvania passed eulogistic resolutions upon Gen. Grant, and the following reply was received from the general: "Your dispatch announcing the kind resolution adopted by the department encampment of Pennsylvania is just received. I feel very grateful for the kind expressions of the veterans now assembled at Harrisburg."

Drexel, the Banker, Dead.

Francis A. Drexel, at the head of the Drexel banking houses in Philadelphia, New York and Paris, died suddenly in Philadelphia, Sunday. Mr. Drexel was a Philadelphian by birth, born in 1824, and as a boy entered the counting house of his father, Francis M. Drexel, the founder of the present house.

Driven Across the Rio Grande.

The latest information from Carrizo Springs is to the effect that the Mexican marauders have been driven across the Rio Grande. It is apprehended that the raiders have only postponed their purpose to avenge the killing of the members of their gang.

Oklahoma Boomers.

W. L. Couch and three confederates, charged with resisting United States troops in the recent Oklahoma invasion, appeared before a United States commissioner at Wichita, Wednesday, and were discharged, no witnesses appearing against them. The boomers reiterate their intention of setting out again on March 5.

Gorsuch, the Chicago anarchist, who has been at Cleveland organizing communistic societies, will go east on the same mission. His first stop will be at Pittsburg. He met with good success at Cleveland.

THE ELECTORAL COUNT.

The Rush for Seats—The Dear Ladies Want to See Everything.

The galleries of the House were not opened until 10:15 Wednesday morning, and for a long time before that hour a crowd of spectators remained patiently in the corridors. When admission was at last allowed, the visitors hastened in to secure the choice of seats, and in a few moments the galleries were filled and the steps utilized for resting places. That portion of the gallery reserved for the families and friends of Senators and Representatives, was occupied mainly by ladies, while the portion given up to the public was almost exclusively filled with gentlemen. The executive gallery was vacant, and one diplomat sat in solitary state in the gallery reserved for the diplomatic corps.

McMillen offered a resolution directing the doorkeeper to admit to the floor ladies having tickets issued for the member's gallery during the joint session for counting the electoral vote.

Hewitt (Ala.) made the point of order that the resolution changed a rule of the House, and must go to the committee on rules.

The speaker pro tem. (Blackburn) overruled the point of order, and the resolution was adopted—134 to 72.

While the motion was under consideration, Springer remarked that as this was the day which "let the Republicans out," no Democrat should oppose it.

On motion of Keifer, the clerk of the House was directed to inform the Senate that at 12 o'clock the House would be prepared to receive that body, in conformity with the provisions of the concurrent resolution, relating to counting the electoral vote.

At a few moments before 12 o'clock the Speaker pro tem requested members to clear the two first rows of seats for the accommodation of Senators. At precisely 12 the Senate of the United States was announced, and, headed by Mr. Edmunds and officers of that body, the Senators filed in and took the seats assigned them, the President of the Senate seating himself by acting Speaker Blackburn.

Edmunds, in calling the assembly to order, said: "The two Houses of Congress have met in pursuance of the constitution and a concurrent resolution for the purpose of executing the duty required by the constitution and laws in the matter of counting the electoral vote for President and Vice-President of the United States, cast by the electors of the several states for the term commencing March 4, 1885. The tellers appointed by the two Houses will please take their places."

Sens. Hoar and Pendleton and Reps. Clay and Keifer having taken their places at the clerk's desk, Edmunds said:

"The president of the Senate will open the certificates of the several states in alphabetical order, and now opens the certificate for the state of Alabama. He hands the chairman of the tellers on the part of the Senate the certificate from Alabama, received by mail, and to the chairman of tellers on the part of the House of Representatives the certificate received by messenger."

The certificate was read by Senator Hoar and announced: Ten electoral votes for Grover Cleveland for President, and ten electaral votes for Thomas A. Hendricks for Vice-president.

Sherman asked unanimous consent that only the operative parts of the certificates be read, the formal parts being inspected by the tellers. This was agreed to, and only the statement of the votes cast were read and announced.

The count proceeded without interruption until New York was reached. This certificate was read by Clay, of Kentucky, and as some vague rumors were in the air this morning that trouble would be made over the counting of the vote of New York, a murmur of relief went up when Clay finished the reading and announced that the certificate of the electors was certified to by Grover Cleveland, governor. A slight manifestation of applause was promptly suppressed by Edmunds, who ordered the sergeant at arms to arrest any gentleman or other person who disturbed the order of these proceedings by applause or other manifestation.

When the certificate from Wisconsin announced 11 votes for Blaine and Logan, Edmunds rose and said: "I have now opened the certificates of the electors of all the states, and their votes have been reported. The tellers will now make their computation, and report the state of the vote."

After the tellers had devoted themselves to figuring for several minutes, Sen. Hoar read and handed the result of their computation to the presiding officer, who

"Senators and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives—The tellers have reported to the presiding officer the state of the vote, from which it appears that Grover Cleveland, of the state of New York, received 219 votes for the office of President of the United States; that James G. Blaine, of the state of Maine, received 182 votes for the same office; that Thomas A. Hendricks, of the state of Indiana, received 219 votes for the office of Vice President of the United States; that John A. Logan, of the state of Illinois, received 182 votes for the same office. Wherefore, I do declare that Grover Cleveland, of the state of New York, has received a majority of the whole number of the electors appointed, as they appear in the certificates read by the tellers, and so appears to have been elected President of the United States for four years, commencing on the fourth day of March, eighteen hundred and eighty-five; and that Thomas A. Hendricks, of the state of Indiana, has received a majority of the votes of the whole number of electors appointed, as they appear in the certificates read by the tellers, and so appears to be elected Vice President of the United States for four years commencing March 4; and the president of the Senate makes this announcement only as a public statement, in the presence of the two houses of Congress, of the contents of the papers opened and read on this occasion, and not as possessing any authority in law to declare any legal conclusion whatever."

Here the immense audience broke into applause and cheers, which the presiding officers attempted to suppress, but with little success. The Senate then retired to its chamber, and the House took a recess for 15 minutes.

Sen. Edmunds and the Electoral Count.

The disclaimer of Vice Pres. Edmunds in announcing the result of the electoral vote, to the effect that he declared the result of the examination of the electoral certificates only as a public statement and not as possessing any authority in law to declare any legal conclusion whatever, has raised a question which is likely to lead to protracted debate in the Senate. The members of the two Houses and the large audience present were so eager to hear the official announcement of the result of the count of the electoral vote that little attention was paid at the time to the language employed by the presiding officer.

There is a decided feeling among the Senators on this subject, particularly on the Republican side. Those who dissent from Mr. Edmunds' declaration insist that it is the right as well as the duty of the President of the Senate to declare the result of the count and to proclaim that the persons who received the highest number of votes were elected President and Vice President of the United States, respectively. The declaration made by Mr. Edmunds was not intended to cast an imputation upon the integrity of the vote, but simply to assert his fixed belief that the President of the Senate has no lawful authority to declare the result. This whole subject was elaborately argued in connection with the contest of 1876, when several senators maintained that it was a dangerous power to entrust in one man to authorize the President of the Senate to absolutely declare the result without the right of appeal. Mr. Edmunds held then that the duty of the President of the Senate ceased with the announcement of the ascertained result, and that he had no authority to declare absolutely that a particular person was chosen President of the United States. He still holds that view, and, therefore, after a careful examination of the law and precedents, determined to go no farther than to proclaim the result shown by the electoral certificates examined in the presence of the two houses.

When the Senate met this morning, the Chair laid before the Senate the House concurrent resolution providing for a joint committee of three members of the House of Representatives and two Senators to notify Grover Cleveland of his election as President, and to notify Thomas A. Hendricks of his election as Vice-President. On motion of Garland it was referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Garland said the phraseology of the resolution needed looking at.

Going to Mexico.

A Fall River, Mass., dispatch says: An important move is contemplated by the Quequechan Mill corporation, which includes the transfer of the entire plant, except the mill building, to Mexico. It is proposed to erect a mill there, and equip it with the machinery in the present mill, to add a few printing machines and enter upon the complete manufacture of certain classes of printed goods in that country. The mill was established in 1826, runs 16,892 spindles and 492 looms. It will employ Mexican help.

An International Matter.

The Chinese government intends making the expulsion of Chinese from Eureka, Cal., the 7th inst., an international matter, and claim indemnity from the United States.

The Schwab Socialists.

The Socialists under the leadership of Justus Schwab are preparing to celebrate Washington's birthday by a public parade in New York Monday, February 23. The leaders say they intend to show the police and militia that the liberty-lovers of that city do not believe in or respect existing laws and have no fears of them. The recent riot at Concordia hall, when Police Capt. McCullagh was assaulted by Schwab's followers, has created an intense feeling of dislike on both sides, and it is clearly understood that if the Irish police of the city receive orders to stop the German Socialists from parading, that a bloody meeting will surely take place.

The examination of Justus Schwab, the notorious socialist, was continued at the Essex Market court Tuesday. Schwab declined to swear by "the ever-living God." He gave evidence on his "word of honor," and denied having done anything to incite riot at the meeting of the socialists. He did not strike Police Capt. McCullagh, he said, but, on the contrary, did all he could to restore order out of the chaos. He believed Capt. McCullagh was responsible for most of the disorder.

John Kelley Sick.

John Kelley, the Tammany leader, is dangerously ill at his residence in New York. Since November 10 Mr. Kelley has not been able to attend to business of any kind or even read his mail and the newspapers. He was taken to the Rockaway Beach hotel last Wednesday by a special train with the hope that the sea air might help him, but he grew steadily worse and Friday was returned to his city home. Mr. Kelly's family and intimate friends have persistently denied that he was at all dangerously sick and have caused to be inserted in the newspapers items telling how Mr. Kelly rode his Kentucky horse in Central Park every fair day, when as a matter of fact he has been confined to his room and strict silence maintained in his vicinity. The physicians in attendance shook their heads dubiously and refused to speak of their patient.

How the Illinois Bourbons Expect to Win.

The two parties in the State legislature have been watching each other closely, each hoping to reap some advantage at the meeting to-day to ballot for United States Senator. The Democrats held a caucus last night, and decided to force a ballot if possible. The Democrats have heard from all their members, and expect to have every one on hand by noon. The Republicans, on the other hand, have nine men from whom they have not heard, and who are probably snowed in, besides Sen. Brown, who is sick.

A ballot was taken at noon for senator. No quorum. Haines voted for Morrison; and Morgan voted for Haines. The Republicans refused to vote, thus breaking the quorum.

The Oldest Military Company in the United States.

The Connecticut legislature unanimously passed a resolution making an appropriation to enable the Governor's Foot Guards, of Hartford, to attend the dedication of the Washington monument. The company was chartered in 1771, twice escorted Washington and Lafayette, and is the oldest active military company in the United States. The governor and staff will attend the dedication.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Marshal Wright.

Judge Reynolds, first auditor of the treasury, has concluded the examination of the accounts of Marshal Wright, of Cincinnati, of expenses incurred during the Ohio election, and referred them to the first comptroller for final examination. The first auditor allows all the items except for fees of deputy marshals who were not residents of the state of Ohio. There were about 50 such deputies, whose fees have been fixed at $10 each.

Alaska.

Sec. Lincoln thinks there is going to be a heavy immigration to Alaska. The entire edition of last year's report on the resources and climate of Sec. Seward's purchase was entirely exhausted several weeks ago. The secretary of the Navy has sent Lieut. Stoney's report on Alaska to the Senate, and it will be printed to supply the need. It is a full description of the mining resources, gold, coal, timber and fur bearing animals of the territory.

The Civil Service Commission.

The President Wednesday transmitted to Congress the second annual report of the civil service commission, covering a period from January 16, 1884, to January 16, 1885. In his letter transmitted he says the commission is in the second year of its existence, and congratulates the country on the success of its labors. He commends the subject to the favorable consideration of Congress, and asks for an appropriation to continue the work.

The report is a comprehensive document giving a full account of the action of the commission and the results achieved. It says the civil service law has been found practicable and effective for the accomplishment of its purpose. Only a single complaint was made of political discrimination against any appointing officer, and that was the case of a postmaster in Ohio. After investigation by the committee no evidence appeared in support of the charge.

The report advises legislation upon the model of the New York law of 1884, approved by Gov. Cleveland, which forbids any one, whether public officer or not, to solicit contributions from persons in the public service.

Palmer's Land Title Bill.

Sen. Palmer Wednesday offered his Land Title bill as a separate section to the pre-emption bill in the Senate. It was discussed for some time. The opposition was unexpectedly formidable. Many Senators appeared to be doubtful as to what the effect of the proposed legislation would be. Some of them seemed disposed to object to Mr. Palmer's amendment, because they regarded it as not germane to the pending bill. Sen. Palmer was very active in explaining the provisions of the amendment to Senators individually and collectively. He was earnestly supported by Senators Conger, Dolph, Sawyer, Hale and others. But when a vote was taken in committee of the whole the amendment was defeated. The vote was 28 to 29. This was a surprise to the supporters of the amendment. But they were not disposed to give up the fight, and when the Pre-emption bill was reported to the Senate and was again open to amendment, Senator Palmer renewed his amendment, but pending discussion thereon the Senate adjourned. It will come up to-morrow and the chances appear to be that it will be adopted by a small majority. If it is adopted the probabilities are that it will become a law, for the Pre-emption bill is a House bill, and when it goes back to the House with the Senate amendments it will be sent to a conference committee, and it is very rarely that either House refuses to adopt a conference report.

Dynamite Explosions.

The House committee on foreign affairs, to which was referred various resolutions relative to the recent dynamite explosions in London, decided to report it unbecoming the dignity of the House of Representatives to assume that American citizens had been in any way connected with the crime, where no charges have been made, and that the committee was unwilling to request any officer of the government to search for proof of guilt where there was no charge.

How Indian Agents Swindle the Government.

Three weeks ago John Howe, a former Indian agent at the Western Shoshone agency, in Nevada, died. Mr. Howe had filled that position from 1878 to 1881 inclusive. His accounts have been undergoing an examination at the Second Comptroller's office of the treasury department for over a year. They disclose a condition of affairs that is startling to the clerks in that bureau, who are supposed to have such familiarity with fraudulent Indian accounts as to be surprised at nothing. It is alleged that Howe's peculations during his three years' term of office, will aggregate nearly $200,000.

Alden R. Smith, one of the Indian Inspectors who was engaged on the case, reports that Howe opened a large establishment for the sale of staple goods at Mountain City, Nev., and that the original stock, as well as the subsequent additions, was purchased with money appropriated by the government for the maintenance of the Indians. It is said that Livingston & Co., of San Francisco, were paid thousands of dollars for different consignments of fine liquors, every drop of which was sold to the whites and Indians in that vicinity at extortionate prices. Howe's purchases included blue stone, blasting powder and almost every conceivable article used in the development of mines, while only a small percentage could by any possibility be used for the benefit of the Indians.

Other evidence shows that $1,800 was paid at one time for a team of horses that would have been dear at $200.

The Bill to Retire Gen. Grant.

In the House, Slocum, under instructions from the military committee, moved to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill for the retirement of Gen. Grant. [This is the first bill passed by the Senate, and specifically names the officer to be retired.]

Horr and Warner (Ohio) demanded a second. The motion to suspend the rules was seconded—110 to 72. A 30-minute debate was allowed under the rules. It was opened by Slocum in behalf of the bill.

"This bill," he said, "proposed to place Gen. Grant in the same position he would have occupied had he not (in accordance with the will of the people of the country) accepted the office of chief magistrate. In form and in language this bill was precisely like all bills passed for purposes of this kind. It had often been said that much had been done for Gen. Grant, but nothing had been done for him by the United States government beyond paying him the salaries to which he was entitled by law.

The motion to suspend the rules was lost—158 to 103.

Washington Claim Agents.

Certain claim agents of this city have recently sent thousands of circulars to postmasters throughout the country who will be benefited by the readjustment of the salary act of May, 1883, claiming that the only sure and prompt means of securing this arrears of money is through them. The matter having been brought to the attention of acting Postmaster-General Crosby, he issued an order saying that the services of an attorney in such cases is a useless expense, and denying the power of middlemen to facilitate such matters in the slightest degree. Gov. Crosby says all that is required is to address the department and the claims will be settled as soon as they can be reached.

The Washington Monument.

Saturday afternoon has been set apart for exercises in the hall of the House connected with the dedication of the Washington monument, the chief feature of which will be an oration by Hon. Robert E. Winthrop, to be read by Representative Long, of Massachusetts, and Hon. John W. Daniel, of Virginia.

What Congress Costs.

The legislative appropriation bill pending in the House gives some idea of what Congress costs. In the list of expenses the first item—compensation of senators—is put down at $380,000, while for pay of members of the House the sum of $1,696,000 is appropriated, making more than $2,000,000 on salaries alone to members. There are still greater expenses in the aggregate, though none so large in a single item. The mileage of the members of the House and Senate is alone nearly $150,000. For clerks to committees, messengers and others to wait upon and serve honorable statesmen the sum of $617,000 is asked. Even the little item of stationery counts up, the sum to be appropriated by the bill as reported being over $60,000. There is the usual appropriation for the botanic garden, the purpose of which seems to be to furnish bouquets to members and their families. This is $11,000. For the library of Congress the appropriation is $37,000. On the whole, Congress seems to be doing pretty well, more than $2,000,000 for the salary list, $60,000 for stationery, over $38,000 for the library, $11,000 for bouquets and more than $500,000 for persons to wait on them and do work incident to their presence here.

Extra Session Talk.

Judging from the expression of members of Congress, when speaking for themselves alone, and to some extent from the course of events the last week, an extra session of Congress is no longer probable, but may be possible, as expressions of fear or conviction are heard on all hands that some party or faction, not including the persons speaking, would welcome an extra session.

Five of the most important appropriation bills are yet to be acted upon by the House, and these, in addition to the postoffice bill, which passed the House Saturday, must yet be considered by the Senate committee on appropriation. The river and harbor committee will antagonize the appropriation bills with the river and harbor bill, whenever opportunity offers. It is proposed to hold night sessions during the week, and if the sundry civil and naval appropriation bills are disposed of before its close, the appropriation committee expect them to bring forward the fortification bill.

The River and Harbor Bill.

The House spent four hours Saturday quarreling over the river and harbor bill. Nearly all the time was devoted to disputes about points of order. Members of the River and Harbor committee still think that they will get this bill through in some shape. Everything depends on the disposition of the opponents of the measure. They continue to be factious and resolute. The numerous votes which have been taken indicate that a considerable majority of the House is in favor of passing the pending bill if it can be so modified as reasonably to reconcile the conflicting views regarding the Mississippi River improvement and Hennepin canal project.

Cleveland and the Silver Men.

The silver men in the House are circulating a petition, to be sent to Mr. Cleveland, asking him not to commit himself upon the silver question until after they have been heard. They say about a hundred senators and members have signed the paper, and as soon as they get what other names they can they will forward it to the President-elect. A committee of one senator and two members will be sent to Mr. Cleveland with the petition. The petition is said to be the result of an interview which occurred between Mr. Warner, of Ohio, and Mr. Cleveland in New York. While Mr. Warner was in New York with the rest of the pilgrims he thought he would put in a good word for silver. But to his surprise Mr. Cleveland indicated by his answer that he thought the coinage of silver ought to be suspended. This so frightened the Ohioan that he hurried back to the capital and asked Mr. Bland to call a conference of the silver men. The result of the conference was the address. The petition says three-fourths of the Democratic party, as well as the people of the country, are in favor of further coinage. Mr. Bland is said to have written the paper.

What Next?

During the last few days the treasury department has received a number of silver certificates that have been subjected to what the detectives call the "sweating" process. Most of them came from the subtreasury at New York. The law permits the treasury department to redeem a mutilated paper at its face value if three-fifths of it remain. The sharpers took advantage of this law. The silver certificates were first cut in five pieces and then by taking one piece from five different certificates a sixth certificate was made. Thus the five genuine certificates would each lack one-fifth, but the sixth or bogus certificate would apparently have enough pieces pasted together to make it complete. All the certificates were, therefore, redeemed at their face value. The $10 certificates have the number of each engraved in various places on the note in very small figures. The doctored notes were made of fragments containing numbers which did not correspond. This discovery exposed the fraud.

FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.

SENATE.—The Chair laid before the Senate a memorial in the form of a joint resolution from the legislature of Dakota, urging a division of the territory and the admission of its southern portion as a state. The Senate passed Sherman's joint resolution providing for striking medals to commemorate the dedication of the Washington monument. Voorhees called up his bill to increase the appropriation for a public building at Fort Wayne from $100,000 to $175,000, and making $50,000 of the amount immediately available. Passed. Consideration of the bill to prevent unlawful occupancy of public lands was resumed. This is the bill known as the "Anti-fencing bill." It passed, with slight amendments.

Consideration of the pensions appropriation bill was continued. The Senate committee's amendments were concurred in. Ingalls said he understood the Senate, by its action yesterday, had resolved that there should be no more general legislation upon general appropriation bills. He asked Sen. Allison, chairman of the committee on appropriations, whether he regarded the action of yesterday binding upon the committee.

Allison—"I certainly regard the action of the Senate yesterday as requiring the committee on Appropriations, as well as the Senate, to observe the rule; and while I cannot speak, of course, for every member of the committee, for myself I believe the committee to be instructed to report these bills without legislation."

Ingalls—"And that there is to be no surrender in a committee of conference?"

Allison—"I can only speak for myself. I regard the instructions of yesterday as requiring a committee of conference on the part of the Senate not to report legislation here without instruction."

Ingalls—"And that committee are to adhere to instructions, even if appropriation bills should fail?"

Allison—"Well, Mr. President, they would probably in that event take the advice of the Senate. I certainly would not undertake to force an extra session of Congress with referenc to an appropriation bill, without taking the advice of the Senate; but I repeat, I should not, as a member of a conference committee, feel I was permitted to agree to legislation upon appropriation bills without further orders from the Senate."

Ingalls—"Now, Mr. President, there appears to have been some discrimination exercised by the committee on Appropriations in their report upon this bill. Some of the general legislation that came to us from the House has been stricken out; and other features of that legislation the committee have allowed to stand. I am unable to see why, if the rule is to be applied, it should not be applied uniformly."

Ingalls and Allison continued the debate for a short time, after which Jackson moved to add to the bill the provisions of the bill recently passed by the Senate relating to compensation, etc., of pension attorneys. In the amendment Ingalls moved to strike out as general legislation the clause requiring that presumption of soundness shall operate, but that such presumption may be rebutted. Sherman hoped it would not be stricken out. It would be physically impossible, he said, for many deserving soldiers to prove now, after 20 years had elapsed, that they were sound when they enlisted. "We should not carry on this farce about the operation of the Senate rule any farther. We should not deny soldiers their rights, merely on the ground that an i was not dotted or a t was not crossed." Voorhees strongly opposed striking out the provision. A meaner or more contemptible spectacle, he said, had never been presented than had been presented by the United States government, when it said to a soldier, after its own examination and acceptance of him, and after he had served and suffered exposure resulting in long-continued and wasting diseases, or had been maimed and crippled in the service of his country, that he must now affirmatively prove his soundness at the time of his enlistment. A shocking instance, Voorhees said, had lately come under his observation. During the late canvass a little man had come to him with papers from the pension office showing his pension application had been neglected because he was not sound at the time of his enlistment. He had served three and one-half years in the army. Observing on the lapel of his coat something looking like a silver dollar, Voorhees was surprised that so poor looking a man should use silver dollars for ornaments. On inquiry, Voorhees found the object to be a silver medal. The medal read, "Presented by the United States of America to Michael Torpy for distinguished and conspicuous gallantry at Edgefield Junction, Tenn., August 22, 1863." This man, crippled and warped with inflammatory rheumatism contracted from lying on the ground, bore a medal dearer to him than ever had been the cross of the legion of honor to a soldier of Napoleon. That man when engaged in a difficult and dangerous task, exposed to a heavy fire, when ordered by his commanding officer to retire or he would be killed, had replied, "What are we here for if not to succeed or take our chances of death?" Yet that soldier had in his pocket a letter from the pension office notifying him he was not sound at the time of his enlistment, and that he could have no pension. Pending Ingalls' motion, Miller (Cal.) moved to perfect the clause objected to by striking out the authority given the government to rebut by evidence the presumption of soundness. Miller's motion was not agreed to—yeas 17, nays 36. Ingalls explained that he had made his motion for the purpose of raising the point regarding the Senate rule. The committee on Appropriations had stricken out some provisions on the ground that they were general legislation, but had retained other provisions precisely of that character. This would seem to mean the Senate rule was to be enforced when senators wanted it to operate, and not to be enforced when they did not want it to operate. Ingalls' own conviction was the provision as it came from the House was sound, and that the Senate ought to agree to it. [This would necessarily require the voting down of Ingalls' own amendment.] After further discussion, Ingalls' amendment was voted down—yeas 16, nays 44—Ingalls himself voting in the negative. The bill then passed substantially as it came from the Senate committee, all legislative measures found in the bill as it came from the House relating to compensation of pension attorneys being struck out, the Senate having already passed a special bill containing these provisions. The bill now goes to the House for concurrence or non-concurrence in the Senate's action striking out the provisions referred to. The Senate then took up and resumed consideration of the House bill repealing the pre-emption and timber culture laws. After some debate, Dolph proposed an amendment providing that all entries heretofore made under pre-emption laws on which final proof and payment have been made to which there are no adverse claims, and which have been sold to innocent purchasers, shall be confirmed and patented upon presentation of satisfactory proof to the proper department officer. Sherman thought this required careful consideration. It might operate to deprive the United States of the right to recover lands originally obtained from them by fraud. Without decision on the amendment the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—King, rising to a point of personal privelege, said that under a misapprehension he had on Friday last made use of some remarks directed to Hiscock, which he wished now to withdraw. The House went into committee of the whole on the postoffice appropriation bill. The bill was read by paragraphs for amendments. Several amendments were offered and voted down. Pending further action the committee rose.

Phelps reported back a resolution requesting of the President copies of all correspondence in the hands of the government relating to the case of C. O. Vanbocken, an American citizen imprisoned at Port au Prince, Hayti. Adopted. Adjourned

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.

SENATE.—At 1:25 p. m., the Senators returned to the Senate Chamber, and the president pro tem of that body having resumed the Chair, the tellers on the part of the Senate (Hoar and Pendleton) appeared, and on their behalf, Hoar reported the result of the electoral count. When the tellers' report was completed, the President of the Senate repeated verbatim the closing sentence of the announcement by him in the House of Representatives relating to the declaration of the vote. That sentence was as follows: "And the President of the Senate makes this declaration only as a public statement, in the presence of the two houses of Congress, of the contents of the papers opened and read on this occasion, and not as possessing any authority in law to declare any legal conclusion whatever."

Conger said he desired, as one member of the Senate, to say that he entirely dissented from the declaration that the President of the Senate, or Vice President, had no other power in announcing that vote than to announce the fact, and he did not know by what authority the sentence quoted had been made a part of the declaration.

Sherman said: "I also wish for myself having put on record my opinion on this question, that the declaration made was the declaration of the gentleman who presided on that occasion, expressing his own opinion, and should not to be taken as a precedent except so far as it may command the judgment of mankind hereafter. I believe the Vice President of the United States declared and exercised a constitutional power when he presided over the body to-day, and counted the vote; and that his announcement of the vote is a conclusive end of all argument upon the question, and that in doing so he not only gave his own opinion as the result of certain papers given to him, but he made only the constitutional declaration provided for under existing law, who is to be President of the United States after March 4."

After remarks by Hoar, Lapham, Wilson and Ingalls on the subject, the Chair (Edmunds) said he regarded the Senate as in no way responsible for the declaration made by him. He had performed his constitutional duty, and had on his own responsibility made the declaration referred to. Ingalls' resolution went over until to-morrow, as did the resolution by Hoar, approving Edmunds' course. The Senate resumed consideration of the bill to repeal the pre-emption and timber culture laws. Without action, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—On the House being called to order, after the electoral count, Keifer offered a resolution reciting the result of the joint convention of the two Houses, and declaring it the sense of the House that the constitution and laws had been duly executed, and that no further declaration of these facts is necessary. Springer said it seemed, from the announcement of the presiding officer of the joint convention, that there was no declaration of the votes. Contrary to all precedent, the Vice President had simply declared that it "appeared" from the count made by the tellers that Grover Cleveland had received a certain number of votes," but he had disclaimed any intention to make any official declaration of the result of that vote. He preferred that the matter should be referred to the judiciary committee, with instructions to report such resolution as may be necessary for the purpose of making known the result of the election.

The Speaker, pro tem.—"The presiding officer of the joint convention, in making the announcement of the vote, announced the result that had been found, and simply added a disclaimer of any authority on his part as presiding officer of the Senate or joint convention to make any declaration at all."

Springer—"I move that the whole matter be referred to the Judiciary committee."

The Speaker—"In the judgment of the Chair, the declaration made by the presiding officer was exactly what it should have been."

Springer—"I have not asked the Speaker for his opinion. I desire to state my own."

The Speaker—"The Chair, acting as an officer representing the House in joint convention, would have made a protest if any improper declaration by the presiding officer had been delivered."

Randall said the vote of the electors had been announced, and that any ministerial proceeding was not essential to the main fact that Grover Cleveland had been elected.

Hammond thought that the joint convention having made its declaration, the House had nothing further to do with it. Springer withdrew his motion, and Cox (N. Y.) stating the constitution had declared who had been elected President and Vice-President, moved to lay the resolution on the table. Agreed to—yeas 135, nays 115.

Clay then offered the following concurrent resolution: "That two members of the House of Representatives be appointed by the House, and one member of the Senate be appointed by that body, to wait on Grover Cleveland, of the state of New York, and notify him that he has been duly elected President of the United States for four years, commencing March 4, 1885, and also to notify Thos. A. Hendricks, of the state of Indiana, that he has been duly elected Vice President of the United States for four years. That the President of the Senate do make out and sign a certificate in the words following: 'Be it known that the Senate and House of Representatives, being convened in the city of Washington, the second Wednesday in February, 1885, the underwritten President of the Senate, pro tempore, did, in the presence of said Senate and House of Representatives open all certificates and all the votes of electors for President and Vice President of the United States were then counted in the presence of the two houses; whereupon it appeared that Grover Cleveland had a majority of the votes of electors as President, and Thomas A. Hendricks had a majority of the votes of electors as Vice-President, by all which it appears that Grover Cleveland had been duly elected President and Thomas A. Hendricks had been duly elected Vice-President of the United States, agreeably to the constitution for a term of four years, beginning March 4, 1885. In witness whereof I have herewith set my hand, this —— day of February, 1885, and have sealed with the seal of the Senate;' and that the committee hereby appointed, when notifying the persons elected of their election, shall present to each of them a duly authenticated copy of the foregoing certificate."

Clay said this resolution was in all precedents, except as to the last two Presidential elections. On suggestion of Cox (N. Y.) the resolution was modified so as to make the committee consist of three Representatives and two Senators. Keifer said the resolution was wholly unnecessary. J. D. Taylor (Ohio) moved to lay the resolution on the table. Lost—38 to 168. Holman moved to amend by striking out all that part of the resolution having reference to the certificate of election. Agreed to without division. The resolution, as amended, was agreed to. The House then went into committee of the whole on the postoffice appropriation bill. Hoar offered an amendment increasing from $4,100,000 to $4,535,000 the appropriation for the letter carrier system. Agreed to. Skinner (N. Y.) offered an amendment providing that letter carriers may be appointed when public business demanded it in places where the population was not less than 10,000, and when the gross revenues at such offices amounted to $10,000, or in several places near to each other where the aggregate population was $10,000 and the gross revenue not less than $10,000. Pending action the committee rose and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.

SENATE.—The resolutions offered yesterday by Ingalls and Hoar, relating to the electoral count, were, on motion of Hoar, referred without comment to the committee on Privileges and Elections. A resolution offered by Sherman was agreed to, authorizing the President of the Senate to appoint a committee of three Senators to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect. Van Wyck inquired of the Chair why the bill to forfeit the Texas land grant had been displaced from its position at the head of the special order. He said the bill had not been considered by the Senate, but whether by mistake of the clerk, or for some other reason, the bill had within a few days disappeared from the special orders. The Chair (Edmunds) said it was owing to no mistake of the clerk. The bill had been placed before the Senate as a special order, in technical form, and the Senate by vote refused to consider it and proceeded to consider another bill. [This was the anti-silver coinage bill.] That refusal, the Chair said, under constant rulings of the presiding officer of the Senate, sent the bill back to the general calendar, and it ceased to be the special order. Van Wyck asked unanimous consent that the bill be restored to its place among the special orders, which was acceded to.

The chair announced as the committee to make the necessary arrangements for the coming inauguration, Sherman, Hawley and Ransom.

At 1 o'clock the Des Moines river titles bill was displaced by the bill repealing the preemption and timber culture laws.

Vest read a letter from a gentleman residing in Michigan, whom he said he did not know, but whose respectability had been vouched for by a senator from Michigan. The letter states that the bill introduced by Senator Palmer, apparently for the benefit of bona fide purchasers of public lands, was not in reality in their interest, but in the interest of persons, who, through collusion with government land agents, had been enabled to buy great tracts of public lands at private sale, contrary to law, thus getting for $1.25 an acre lands worth $25 and $100 an acre. After remarks by Conger, Vest and Palmer, Palmer's amendment was agreed to—25 to 22. Morgan offered an amendment providing for the settlement of all questions of conflicting claims by the department of the interior, and giving bona fide settlers under the homestead and preemption laws the preference over previous entries made at $1.25 an acre. Pending debate on Morgan's amendment, the following joint resolution was submitted by Van Wyck, for reference to the committee on Public Lands: "That it shall be unlawful for any railroad company claiming an interest in any grant of land from the United States, or for any person acting under its authority, to sell or offer to sell, or mortgage or pledge, any such lands while a bill for the forfeiture of the same is pending in either House of Congress, or before a patent in conformity with law shall have issued for the same; and any person or persons selling or offering to sell, or mortgage or pledge such land, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be fined not to exceed $100, or shall be imprisoned not to exceed one year." Referred.

The timber culture bill was then temporarily laid aside, and the army appropriation bill taken up. The bill was read by sections, and the Senate committee amendments adopted without debate, except the last one, which strikes out the following provision of the House bill: "That article 94, section 1,342 of the revised statutes, be and the same is hereby repealed and amended so as to read as follows: 'Article 94. The proceedings of the trial shall be carried on during such hours as the court-martial shall determine.'"

Sherman read the statute relating to court martials, and said the recent court martial had been prolonged two or three weeks unnecessarily, in consequence of this statute. He understood the article had its origin in the fact that in olden times in Great Britain gentlemen were not expected to be sober enough after dinner to transact business. The habits of our people were not such as required the longer existence of this article.

Allison said the article which it was proposed to repeal was not designed alone for the convenience of officers of court martials, but was also operative in behalf of those accused of crimes and were on trial. He hoped the repeal of an article which had "carried us through two or three wars" would not be undertaken upon an appropriation bill.

Sherman thought the motion opposing legislation upon appropriation bills was being carried to extremes, but having called the attention of the Senate to the matter he would not press for a division. The amendment of the committee was then adopted, which has the effect to leave the article unchanged, and the bill was passed. The Chair laid before the Senate a bill for the repeal of preemption and timber culture laws,

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the pending question being upon the adoption of Morgan's amendment. A modification of Morgan's amendment, offered by Harrison, was accepted by Morgan, providing the United States court should have also jurisdiction of conflicting claims. Morgan's amendment, thus modified, was agreed to—28 to 14.

An amendment offered by Sherman, was agreed to, providing that no public lands, not heretofore offered at public sale, shall be sold at public sale or be subjected to private sale, except military reservations and mineral lands. The amendment to the bill being completed it was passed—25 to 20—Edmunds voting with the Democrats against the bill, and Brown with the Republicans for it.

The Chair laid before the Senate a bill to forfeit the Texas Pacific land grants. Blair attempted to bring up the Anti foreign Contract Labor bill, but on learning this would displace the Forfeiture bill, Van Wyck declined to yield. Executive session. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—In the opening prayer the chaplain of the House invoked Divine protection upon him who had been elected President. It was ordered that on and after Monday next the House meet at 11 o'clock. The Senate amendments to the Consular, Diplomatic and Pension Appropriation bills were non-concurred in and a Conference committee appointed. The Senate bill passed (with amendment) providing for the erection of a public building at Detroit, at a limited cost of $900,000. The Senate bill passed (with an amendment) increasing to $250,000 the limitation of the cost of a public building at Erie, Pa., and making the present appropriation $100,000. Tucker reported a bill providing for the payment of the judgment rendered by the Supreme court of the District of Columbia in the case of Hallet Kilbourne against J. G. Thompson. Committee of the Whole. The House went into committee of the Whole on the postoffice appropriation bill, the pending amendment being that offered by Skinner (N. Y.) extending the letter carrier privilege to places of 10,000 population, provided the gross revenues from the postoffice in such places shall aggregate at least $10,000. The amendment was ruled out on a point of order.

The paragraphs relating to a change in the method of compensating railroads for mail transportation having been read, Blount made the point of order that while the paragraphs contemplated a change in the law, they did not on their face retrench expenditures in any way required by the rules. A long debate ensued upon this point. The Chair overruled the point of order. Blount appealed from the decision of the Chair. The committee—52 to 94—refused to sustain the decision of the Chair, and new legislation concerning railroad mail compensation was stricken from the bill.

Horr then moved that the appropriation for inland mail transportation be fixed at $1,401,000, and that $1,765,000 be appropriated for railway postoffice car service. After a long debate, Horr's amendment was adopted. Nichols offered an amendment appropriating $266,764 for necessary and special facilities on trunk lines. After a brief and noisy debate by Nichols, McComas and Money in favor of the amendment, and by Townshend in opposition, it was adopted.

On motion of Horr the appropriation for star route service was increased by $200,000. On motion of Horr, the appropriation for railway postoffice clerks was increased $200,000.

Townshend offered an amendment providing that upon all publications of the second class, when sent by publishers thereof or from the office of publication to bona fide subscribers, or from news agencies to actual subscribers, shall, after July 1, 1885, be entitled to transmission through the mails at one cent per pound or fraction thereof. Agreed to.

On motion of Townshend an amendment was adopted directing the secretary of the treasury at future lettings of contracts for the manufacture of stamps, etc., to put in bids for the bureau of engraving and printing. Pending further action the committee rose, and the House took a recess till 8.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.

SENATE.—Hoar reported a resolution allowing Geo. E. Spencer, formerly Senator from Alabama, $7,152, being actual and necessary expenses in maintaining his title to his seat. Saulsbury said that as a member of the committee he did not concur in the resolution. On objection by Cockrell, the resolution went over one day. The Des Moines river lands bill was taken up, and Lapham addressed the Senate. Hoar reported the House and Senate conferees were unable to agree on the electoral count bill. The disagreement, Hoar said, had taken place in the first week of the session. The Texas Pacific land forfeiture bill, as the pending special order, was placed before the Senate. Blair asked unanimous consent to take up the anti-foreign contract labor bill. Van Wyck declined to yield anything more on the subject. Blair moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the labor bill. Van Wyck asked the Chair if this would not again displace the Texas Pacific forfeiture bill and relegate it to the calendar. The Chair said it would.

Van Wyck—"Then I want that distinctly understood."

Van Wyck called for the yeas and nays on Blair's motion, and it was agreed to—30 to 10. The labor bill was therefore taken up, and its consideration proceeded with. [The labor bill is the House bill, and entitled, "An act to prohibit the importation and migration of foreigners and aliens under contract or agreement to perform labor in the United States, its territories or the District of Columbia."]

Considerable debate arose on the bill. Sherman defended it. It was directed not against freemen, but against men who were not their own masters, who did not come as free individuals, but were imported in a body at a prearranged price to compete with free and intelligent American workingmen. It was not race discrimination. Sherman had voted against the Chinese bill, and would have opposed this bill if it were discrimination on account of race. After further debate, the Senate, without action, adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House proceeded to the consideration of business under the special rule. On motion of Thompson a bill passed amending the Pacific railroad act, so as to authorize the construction of the road from Sioux City, Iowa, to Granger, Wyoming. On motion of Hill, the Senate bill passed, (with amendment) amending sections 2474 and 2475 Revised Statutes, relating to the Yellowstone National park.

The House then went into committee of the whole on the postoffice appropriation bill, the pending question being on the point of order raised by Holman against the paragraph allowing additional compensation to American steamships carrying ocean mails. After debate the Chair overruled the point of order. He, however, ruled out that portion of the paragraph which provides that vessels engaged in this service shall be of American registry, and shall in time of war be liable to charter or purchase by the United States at reasonable rates. Holman appealed from the decision of the Chair, but the committee—130 to 45—sustained the ruling. Holman then moved to strike out the paragraph and to insert an amendment appropriating $425,000 for transportation of foreign mails, including railway transit across the Isthmus of Panama, and re-enacting for one year from July next sections 3976 and 4203 revised statutes. Warren (Ohio) supported Holman's motion, and objected to the provision of the bill as being a departure from the Democratic doctrine that subsidy should never be voted. Holman modified his motion so as to move merely to strike out the provision without the insertion of the clause re-enacting sections 3,976 and 4,203 revised statutes. The motion was agreed to—155 to 87—amid applause on the Democratic side. Horr gave notice he would demand a yea and nay vote in the House. On the motion of Bingham, an amendment was adopted providing that the rate on drop letters, including delivery, at letter carrier offices, shall be two cents per ounce. The committee rose and reported the bill to the House, and the previous question having been ordered on the bill, the House took a recess until 8, the evening session for consideration of pension bills.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.

SENATE—The Indian appropriation bill was taken up. A number of the Senate committee's amendments having been agreed to, some discussion arose as to the proposed amendment of the committee which would strike out clauses of the House bill involving general legislation. The special clause on which point was raised was one authorizing the secretary of the Interior, with consent of the Indians, to extend the time of payment for lands forming a part of the Omaha reservation, authorized by act of August, 1882, to be sold. Considerable discussion ensued, in which the House provisions for payment of claims for Indian depredations formed a leading feature. There was some diversity of opinion as to whether payment of those claims should be made out of money held for support of the Indians resulting from sale of Indian lands or out of the treasury. The question of proving the validity of claims also came under consideration. Dawes said there were seven or eight million dollars of those claims lying in the Interior department; the claimants were apparently convinced of the justice of their claims, and it was a reproach to the government that they had not been taken up and disposed of. The claims were so large, and the funds from which, under the Indian treaties, they were to be paid, so small, that we had shrunk from disposing of them. An end should be made of them, but it should be a just end. If the Indian fund was not enough to pay the claims, we should settle the question whether they should be paid from the general treasury. But, in Dawes's opinion, we should not pick out a few of these claims and put them in appropriation bills, merely because the owners of those claims had strong friends, who were willing to urge them.

At the close of the discussion Dawes succeeded in getting the Senate to agree to the committee amendment striking out the legislative item indicated. Reading of the bill then proceeded, and on reaching the section providing for the Assiniboines, Vest moved to increase their appropriation from $30,000 to $50,000. He drew a most pathetic picture of his personal observations of the sufferings of that tribe in a bleak, inhospitable region of country. When the Indians were dying by hundreds of absolute starvation, Vest had personally appealed to Commissioner Price, of the Indian bureau, for some rations to keep life in them, but that gentleman could only reply that he had "no funds." The soldiers of the United States, to their honor it should be said, saved many lives among the starving people by voluntarily giving up their own rations.

Without action on Vest's motion the Senate went into executive session and soon adjourned.

HOUSE.—The regular order having been demanded, the Speaker announced the regular order to be consideration of pension bills, coming over from last night's session. The first bill coming over was one granting a pension of $2,000 per annum to the widow of Gen. George H. Thomas, and after debate it was passed—yeas 143, nays 52.

The balance of the day was spent in raising points of order on the river and harbor bill, the House adjourning with the last point undecided.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.

SENATE.—After several motions had been made and voted down, consideration of the Indian appropriation bill was proceeded with. Vest read a letter from the governor of Montana, saying that notwithstanding the relief offered by the government the condition of the Indians in parts of Montana from exposure and starvation was pitiable in the extreme. It was useless, in Vest's opinion, to say "Let the Indians work or die." That was simply saying, "Let them die." You might as well say to the child in the cradle, "Go to work or die." To take a people after centuries of barbarism and hurl them into the intense and terrible struggle of civilization, and say to them, "Work or die," was not performing our Christian duty. Vest disclaimed sentimentality, but actual personal observation of the condition of Indians in Montana had converted him from the conviction that the best Indian was a dead Indian. The condition of the Indians was a stain upon our Christian civilization. We should prepare them as quickly as possible for self-support, but meanwhile ought to keep them alive. Men who had never handled a spade could not be expected to be self-supporting all at once. We were under much more Christian obligation to those heathens in our own territory than to those in Asia and Africa; but no starving Indian had ever been brought to a realizing sense of Christianity.

Plumb doubted whether so many Indians had died from starvation as had been reported. Vest said there was no doubt about the fact. Dawes said if the heavy hand of the white man were taken off the Indian, and the robbery and murder of Indians and their children should cease, they would soon show they can support themselves. Cease to allow white men, against the orders of the President and the laws of the United States, to march down with guns, drums and banners, upon the Indians, and they will soon cease to be a charge upon the government.

After further debate, Vest's amendment to increase the emergency fund from $25,000 to $50,000 was agreed to.

Debate arose on the senate committee's amendment striking from the House bill the provision prohibiting the carrying of intoxicating liquors into Indian country. After argument the Senate struck out the legislation. Plumb hoped the Senate would not agree to the proposition to strike out from the House bill the section authorizing the President to negotiate with Creek, Seminole and Cherokee Indians for the surrender of their remaining rights in the so called Oklahoma lands. After discussion the provision was stricken out. The bill then passed substantially as reported from the Senate committee.

HOUSE.—The House met in continuation of Friday's session, and immediately went into committee of the whole on the legislative appropriation bill. Considerable progress was made in the reading of the bill when the committee rose, the House adjourned, and the session of Monday began.

A bill passed appropriating $75,000 for the erection of a public building at Aberdeen, Miss. The bill passed amending the statutes in relation to the immediate transportation of dutiable goods. [The bill confers upon bonded express companies, in addition to authority heretofore given for the use of trunks and safes, the privilege of transporting unappraised merchandise in pouches, and in case where merchandise is imported in boxes or packages too large to be included within such trunks, safes or pouches, the privilege of forwarding such merchandise corded and sealed. The bill authorizes bonded express companies to transport "passengers, baggage and effects arriving at any port in the United States to any interior port of entry."]

The bill to place Gen. Grant on the retired list was then considered, and a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill was lost—yeas 158 nays 103—not the necessary two thirds in the affirmative.

Money moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill to regulate letting mail contracts. [It provides that in case a bidder fails to perform services according to his contract he and his sureties shall be liable for the amount of his bond as liquidated damages, to be recovered in an action for debt on the bond. It also provides that no sub-letting or transfer of any mail contracts shall be permitted, unless the annual compensation under the contract for services shall exceed $700, and in no case without the consent in writing of the postmaster general.] The bill passed.

Stockslager moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill appropriating $200,000 for the erection in Washington of a building for a library for the medical department of the United States army. Agreed to, and the bill passed.

The Sharon-Hill Case.

Judge Sullivan, of San Francisco, has rendered a decision on the question of alimony and counsel fees in the Sharon divorce case. He granted the plaintiff, nee Miss Hill, $2,500 a month from date of application, January 9, and $55,000 counsel fees.

Judge Sullivan made an order directing the payment, March 9, of counsel fees, three months' alimony and $2,500 alimony the 8th of each month thereafter. Sharon, being interviewed on the subject, said: "I shall neither pay promptly nor shall I pay at all. There can be no compromise. My honor and the honor of my children is at stake. Proceedings for appeal will be taken immediately."

The Illinois Senatorship.

At a joint session of the legislature, Monday, to vote for United States senator, 67 members were absent. Telegrams were received by many that they were snowed in on railway trains. The speaker, as usual, voted for Morris—the only vote cast. A telegram was received from one of the Chicago members that he is sick and will be unable to attend the sessions for several days. It is not believed that a regular vote for senator will be reached this week.

BUSINESS MATTERS.

Chas. H. Lewis, a Boston stock broker, has gone into insolvency. He owes about $68,000, of which $25,000 is nominally secured.

Joseph Bachman and Alexander Bachman, New York jewelers, have assigned. Liabilities, $70,000; nominal assets, $45,000; actual assets, $18,000.

Schedules in the assignment of Henry Levy & Son, fancy goods, New York, show liabilities of $240,000; nominal assets, $284,267; actual assets, $222,104.

Argos L. Freeman, dealer in silks, New York, made an assignment for the benefit of creditors, without preferences. The firm is rated at from $40,000 to $75,000.

Theophilus Masac, who had charge of the Diaz excursion to this country, has been appointed secretary to Pres. Diaz, of Mexico. He was formerly agent of the Missouri Pacific railway for Mexico.

The failures throughout the country the last seven days, reported to R. G. Dun & Co., number in the United States 239, Canada, 31; total 270; as compared with a total of 346 last week, and 354 the previous week. The large decrease is probably more apparent than real, as railroad and telegraphic communication in the west and northwest is so interrupted that doubtless many failures in remote localities are not yet reported.

The banking house of Harris & Janis, of Saint Genevieve, Mo., made an assignment last Friday to W. F. Cox. No definite information regarding the matter can be obtained, as there is no telegraph office at Saint Genevieve, but news from other sources warrant the presumption that the liabilities of the firm are $80,000. The assets are said to be worth over $100,000. Mr. Harris is treasurer of Saint Genevieve county, and is said to have had nearly $20,000 of the county funds in the bank, but this is believed to be secured.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Egypt.

HOW GEN. GORDON FELL.

The following additional details of the killing of Gen. Gordon and the fall of Khartoum are at hand: On the day of the capture, which is variously stated as the 26th and 27th of January, Gen. Gordon's attention was attracted by a tremendous tumult in the streets. He left the so-called palace or government building, in which he had made his headquarters, to ascertain the cause of the disturbance. Just as he reached the street he was stabbed in the back, and fell dead. The tumult was caused by El Mahdi's troops, who had gained access to the interior of the town through treachery, and who were soon in complete possession of the place, including the citadel.

A FEARFUL MASSACRE

of the garrison followed. The scenes of the slaughter are described as surpassing the Bulgarian atrocities, and rivaling the worst horrors of the Sepoy mutiny. Panic-stricken Egyptians were captured in their flight and put to death with the most fiendish tortures. Some were transfixed with spears, and left to bleed to death. Most of the victims were mutilated in the most horrible manner. Their eyes were gouged out, noses slit, and tongues torn out by the roots. In many cases the mutilated parts of the victims' bodies were thrust into their mouths, while they were still living. The massacre included many non-combatants, and Egyptian women were subjected to the most shameful indignities. More than 100 women and young girls were given over to the Mahdi's followers, to be used as slaves.

After the slaughter many Arabs were seen rushing about the streets with the heads of Egyptians impaled upon their spears. The next night was spent in a saturnalia of blood and debauchery.

KHARTOUM.

Since the capture of Khartoum the Mahdi has repaired the fortifications and made the place well nigh impregnable. He has made it his permanent headquarters, and is said to have an abundance of guns, small arms and ammunition.

Both of Col. Wilson's steamers were wrecked, owing to the treachery of pilots, who will be court martialed.

A LETTER FROM EL MAHDI.

The letter recently sent by the Mahdi to English officers on Col. Wilson's steamer contained a postscript, saying it was the Mahdi's first and last letter to the English, and that unless they submitted he would kill all the Kaffir dogs. The bearer of the letter, a Dervish, urged the Egyptians on the steamer to join the Mahdi's army, saying that God had sent the Mahdi to convert the world, and the Mahdi intended to march straight to Stamboul. On the day after the steamer stranded. Sunday the Mahdi's Emir landed on the island and urged the British to surrender. Sunday evening Hamed Bey, two skippers and seventeen natives deserted the steamer.

THE BATTLE OF DULKA.

The London *Standard's* correspondent with Gen. Earle's column, sends the following dispatch, dated Dulka Island, Tuesday:

The British troops advanced to attack the enemy, who held a strong position on the hills. After some fighting the enemy was completely surrounded. Finding it impossible to dislodge the rebels from their fortified position, Gen. Earle ordered his troops to charge. Gen. Earle was killed while leading the attack.

The Black Watch regiment captured the position at the point of the bayonet, the cavalry taking possession of the enemy's camp. Gen. Brackenburry, upon the fall of Gen. Earle, assumed command and ordered the remaining positions to be stormed. The troops acted promptly, made a gallant attack, and soon captured all the enemy's positions.

The fighting lasted five hours. There was a great slaughter among the enemy, and those who survived escaped by swimming the river. The British force consisted of the Black Watch and South Stafford regiments, a squadron of hussars, two guns of Egyptian artillery, the Egyptian camel corps and a section of the hospital corps.

The troops at once set to work to form a zareba. In the meantime the enemy fired several shots from the high hills. Our pickets advanced and drove back the Arabs who had descended the hills to make the attack. Night ensued and the guards were posted. Everything passed quietly during the night. Tuesday morning the troops formed and advanced to the enemy's position, marching in two parallel columns. Two companies of the South Stafford regiment and two guns occupied the ground directly in front of the enemy to attract their attention. At 8 o'clock our guns opened the attack, and for some time a desultory fire was maintained. In the meantime the main body of our troops were advancing steadily over the almost impracticable ground, pushing the enemy before them, and seizing each successive ridge by a short and determined rush.

The forward movement continued until the advanced troops reached the right rear of the enemy, which rested on the river. This completed the movement whereby the rebels were surrounded. The enemy's position was a very strong one. It was on a rocky, broken ground and strengthened by loopholed walls, from which they maintained a heavy and well directed fire.

Another dispatch to the *Standard* says: When Earle ordered the Black Watch regiment to carry the enemy's position at the point of the bayonet, the regiment responded gallantly. The pipes struck up enlivening airs, and the brave soldiers, cheering in response, moved forward with steadiness and valor to the work before them. The enemy was unable to stand the shock of the English advance, and the gallant charge called out the triumphant admiration of the commanding general. From loopholes in the rebel ramparts shots were fired continuously, but the gallant Black Watch advanced without dread, scaling its works in their almost impregnable front, and drove with their bayonets away from their shelter the wavering foe. Unhappily, at the very point of victory, Gen. Earle fell while gallantly leading his command.

The cavalry in the meantime had pushed beyond the scene of conflict, and captured a camp three miles in the rear of the field of battle, and before the Black Watch had captured the main position of the enemy. While the main attack was being made the Stafford regiment was directed to seize the high rocky hill, which Arab riflemen stoutly defended. The enemy clung to this position desperately, and disputed the ground inch by inch, but the Staffords would not be denied. They finally drove the enemy from the hill. This brought the battle of Kirbekan to a close, gallantly contested from first to last.

The rebels consisted of Monassir-Robotah tribes, and numbers of Dervishes from Berber. It is impossible to judge the number of the enemy, owing to their extended position, and the rocky nature of the ground. Rebel corpses lie in filled up ridges. Their leader from Berber, together with several Emirs, are among the killed. The number of fugitives escaping was very small. The wounded were brought into camp and carefully attended. The force will advance some miles further to-morrow. The guns spiked by Col. Stewart were found buried at Birti.

GORDON'S DIARY.

Conservative papers charge the government with suppressing Gen. Gordon's diary, and a letter in which Gordon stated he sent Col. Stewart away from Khartoum in order to save his (Stewart's) life, intending himself to meet death at Khartoum, as he knew no help could reach there in time to rescue him. When Parliament assembles a production of the dispatches to the government in regard to the Soudan campaign will be demanded.

THE FALL OF KHARTOUM.

A telegram was received at the war office in London, Sunday, from Gen. Wolseley. He sends an account of the fall of Khartoum, as given by an eye-witness to the entrance of the rebels into the town of Khartoum. This informant says Khartoum was entered by El Mahdi's forces on the morning of January 26. Gen. Gordon was killed by a volley from the rebel riflemen, while on his way from the headquarters to the Austrian consulate.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF ALEXANDRIA.

A Cairo dispatch says: "The financial question has been settled, and payment of the indemnity losses incurred by the bombardment of Alexandria is expected shortly to be made. A committee consisting of consuls general of the different powers will assemble in a short time to settle the question of the free navigation of the Suez canal."

GRAHAM GOING TO EGYPT.

Gen. Graham and staff leave London on Saturday next for Cairo, going by way of Brindisi. Upon his arrival at Cairo he will meet in council Gen. Stephenson, Gen. Dolmer and other officers and will then go to Suakim. The expectation of the war office is that forces to start from Suakim will reach Berber, if the march proves successful, by April 25.

Great Britain.

The recent dynamite explosion in the House of Commons has demonstrated the fact that under existing rules governing the admission of strangers to the galleries and lobbies of the Houses of Parliament, it would be an easy matter for dynamiters to convey explosives into the buildings during the session of parliament, and cause the death of many of its members. The government has decided to adopt more stringent rules regulating the admission of visitors. Members of parliament in future will not be allowed to introduce strangers into the galleries and lobbies. The Speaker of the House of Commons alone will have the right of granting tickets of admission to visitors, and he will only issue tickets to members for their friends, after having received a week's notice, so that in the meantime the antecedents of the proposed visitors can be inquired into. Turnstiles will be erected at the entrances to the galleries and lobbies, and experienced detectives will be posted at each turnstile, to carefully scrutinize strangers as they pass.

The following official announcements were made in London, Wednesday: Lord Roseberra has been appointed Lord of the Privy Seal and First Commander of Public Works. Lord Roseberry and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, Postmaster-General, will occupy seats in the Cabinet. Gen. Graham, appointed to command the Suakim-Berber expedition; Gen. Freemanile will command the Guards; Gen. Greaves will be chief of staff.

The cabinet has approved Gen. Wolseley's plan for an early advance from Suakim to Berber. A narrow gauge railroad will be laid to Ariab, a point 130 miles west of Suakim, where an intrenched camp can be formed, with a central depot for stores. Leaving Ariab, he will proceed by forced marches to Berber. It is calculated the advance will begin about the third week in March, and they hope Berber will be reached in six weeks. Ariab, where the intrenched camp will be formed, is an oasis on the road from Suakim to Berber, where there is good pasturage and plenty of water.

REWARDING POLICEMEN.

Policemen Cole and Cox, who were dangerously wounded while endeavoring to prevent the recent dynamite explosion in Westminster Hall, have received a number of valuable presents. Gladstone has given each of the gallant officers £50 from the royal bounty fund. Sir William Harcourt, Home secretary, has given Cole, who pluckily picked up the bundle containing the dynamite and attempted to carry it out, £127, and Cox, who went to Cole's assistance, £50. Sir James Ingham, the magistrate presiding at Bow street police court, presented each of the wounded officers £30, and members of parliament collected £500 for their benefit. Numerous private individuals donated various sums for the same purpose.

GERMANY'S GREED.

Earl Derby, colonial secretary, has received official advices from New Zealand, confirming the report that Germany had annexed the island of Samoa, despite the protests of the English and American consuls.

QUEEN VICTORIA SICK.

Dispatches from Osborne, received this afternoon, state that Queen Victoria is suffering from a severe cold. She has been unable to leave her bed for the past two days. Her majesty, in consequence, has postponed the time for her return to Windsor.

Dispatches from Osborne pronounce the Queen still unable to travel. As a consequence her return to Windsor is again postponed. A few days of perfect rest is required.

CUNNINGHAM'S TRIAL.

During the preliminary trial of Cunningham, the alleged dynamiter, in London, Monday, Joseph Meyers, an auctioneer of Clapham, said he was a passenger on the underground railway the night of the explosion. He testified that he tried to enter the brake compartment, and three men who were in it, prevented him, and that one of the three men was Cunningham. Cunningham immediately arose from his seat and shouted at the witness, "You are a liar." Cunningham and Burton were again remanded for a week.

France.

The government has asked the Chamber of Deputies for a credit of $90,000 with which to organize a French settlement at Obok, on Tajurah bay, west coast of the gulf of Aden, and for the better establishment of a French protectorate over Tadjurah. The Tadjurah country lies at the mouth of the Red sea, not far from the district recently taken possession of by Italy in its occupation of Beilul, near Assai bay.

MISS MACKAY'S MARRIAGE—"A MAGNIFICENT AFFAIR."

Miss Eva Mackay was married in Paris Feb. 12 to Don Ferdinand Julien Colonna, prince of Galatro. The ceremony was private, and was performed with pontificial high mass by Monsignor De Reude, papal nuncio, in the Nuncio's chapel. But 40 persons were present. The nuptial benediction was administered by Monsigner De Reude, who also delivered the marriage address. The civil ceremony of marriage, which is required by the French law, was performed yesterday. The witnesses to this were Prince Colonna Doria, Prince Colonna, United States Minister Morton, and Duke De Cazes. After the celebration of the religious rite to-day, Mrs. Mackay, mother of the bride, gave a grand bridal reception, which in every respect must rank with the most magnificent festivals of French history. The reception was especially distinguished by the quality of the guests, among whom were included about every person of distinction and worth in French society.

China.

The British consul at Foo Chow has given notice that the viceroy has closed the Min river, owing to the menacing attitude of the French.

A dispatch received at Paris from Tonquin states that the French column advancing toward Lainson, under Gen. Briere de Lisle, has had three days hard fighting in the defiles of the mountains. The losses are heavy, but the troops are making steady progress, despite the obstinate resistance of the Chinese.

An official telegram from Gen. Briere De L'Isle states that the flag of France now floats over Langson. The Chinese position at Kulung was also captured by the French, the Chinese army having been routed after a hot fight.

Canada.

At 9 o'clock Tuesday night an explosion occurred in the old pit of the Vale colliery at Westville, Pictou. The heavy storm yesterday and last night seriously interfered with the telegraphic service, and little more than the bare fact of the casualty can be obtained. It is rumored in Halifax that 100 men were in the mine at the time, but it is reported from New Glasgow that the people there heard of only fifteen being down. The latter report is likely to be nearer the truth, as New Glasgow is only seven miles distant from Westville. Whether the men are alive or dead is unknown at present. Fire broke out immediately after the explosion, and men have gone down into the pit to attempt to get the flames under control.

Grading on the whole line of the Canadian Pacific railroad, from Sudbury Junction to Port Arthur, will be completed this week, and the rails laid inside of two months.

An anti-Chinese emigration bill, with very stringent provisions, is on its way through the Victoria legislature. A similar bill was passed by parliament last year, but was rejected by the Ottawa government.

The United States authorities have notified the Canadian minister of marine and fisheries that a proclamation has been issued under which Canadian vessels going into United States ports from Ports in Ontario are exempt from payment of any tonnage dues. As regards Canadian vessels from ports in other Canadian provinces, the tonnage dues exacted on American vessels in these ports will be exacted on Canadian vessels entering American ports. This is the result of bringing into force the Dingley shipping bill.

LAKE ONTARIO FROZEN OVER.

A dispatch from Hamilton, Ontario, says: "Within the recollection of man Lake Ontairo was never before frozen over. Where the lake is 60 miles wide there stretches a field of solid ice, but no man has dared to cross. In other winters the lake froze only in sheltered strips along the shore, and a strong east wind would break up what is to-day a frozen sea. Fishermen in this neighborhood have not been able to lift their nets for 33 days."

The Congo Country.

It is announced in Lisbon that the government of Portugal and the International African association have been enabled through the mediation of England, France and Germany, to reach an understanding in regard to the rights claimed by each along the Congo river. This understanding is in complete harmony with the status secured by the association in its conventions with the powers, which used their offices in the mediation, and it is understood that Portugal is prepared to sign an agreement with the association, similar in every essential respect with those already signed by Qussia, England, Germany and France.

Turkey.

The population of Constantinople are exultant over the fall of Khartoum. On the other hand, the government expresses great anxiety over the disaster in the Soudan, fearing the Mahdi's success will lead to a serious movement in El Hejaz, Arabia, where he has many followers. European newspapers, without exception, deplore the death of Gen. Gordon as an international calamity.

Germany.

Bismarck has notified the Reichstag that he will in the near future submit to it all treaties made by the German government with the British, correspondence and documents concerning North Borneo, and full histories of the acts granting or offering supremacy therein to Germany.

A telegram received Feb. 12 in London from Wellington, New Zealand, says intense excitement prevails in New Zealand, owing to a statement just published that Germany has annexed the island of Samoa. This action was taken by the German squadron in the face of protests by English and American consuls. The situation is serious. The report of this action by Germany is not wholly credited in London, and is published under reserve.

During a debate in the Reichstag on the subject of increasing the duty on wheat, Bismarck said he had reliable data which would warrant his stating that a majority of the members of the Reichstag approve a duty of three marks on wheat.

Russia.

Some excitement was created in London, especially in commercial and financial circles, by the receipt of dispatches from Berlin, announcing that the Russian government had ordered 2,000 Krupp guns for the purpose of strengthening its position in Central Asia. The guns are to be of the largest pattern, and are evidently intended for service in fortresses of superior build. Simultaneously with the above report came a dispatch from St. Petersburg, saying that Sebastopol will be made a free port.

Colombia.

Panama dispatches of February 5 say the country is in a complete uproar. Communication with the interior is entirely cut off, and regarding the condition of affairs in Bogota during the past month nothing is known. No word has been received from there since January 5. Official bulletins claim the government force is triumphant everywhere, and the popularity of Dr. Nunez continues undiminished. These reports, however, are not confirmed.

One of the bulletins published most recently read as follows: "The rebels are in force at Gambita. Our forces were to have attacked the rebels the 5th, but received orders from the government not to make the attack until they had been reinforced by 3,000 men, who were on the march from Bogota. The commander-in-chief is Campo Serrano. Forty-five rebels at Velez were attacked and dispersed. Rogiers Lopez was defeated at Cuicuta with heavy loss. In Oceana the rebels triumphed and seized the town, but were subsequently defeated by Col. Antonio Carreno. Several skirmishes have taken place with Gen. Hernandez' outposts at Gambita. Later advices state that Hernandez has abandoned his camp and gone to Gargoa. Six thousand men are in pursuit. On the 5th the government forces attacked Cuicuta, and after a five hours' fight captured the town. Many were killed on both sides." This news is unofficial.

INDUSTRIAL.

Twenty per cent. of the coke ovens controlled by the syndicate in West Pennsylvania are to start up at once. Two thousand of the syndicate's 10,000 are now in blast.

The various mills and factories at Joliet, Ill., are in full operation, and manufacturers speak hopefully of the outlook. Prices are usually low, however, and competition is close.

At a meeting of the coal trade tribunal at Pittsburg, Wednesday, Umpire Weeks announced that he had fixed a rate for mining in the railroad pits at 2½ cents per bushel, to date from the first of the present month. The award reduces the mining rate half a cent a bushel, the present price being three cents. It is generally satisfactory to operators, and will be accepted by the miners without opposition.

The backbone of the strike of the carpet company's operatives at Lowell, Mass., is broken, as 240 out of 260 ingrain looms are running, and a large portion of spoolers, winders and twisters have also gone back. The brussels weavers voted in executive session Saturday night not to go back, but nine or ten are at work now. The mills have started up in all departments, to give the strikers a chance to return. So many have accepted that the plan of "shutting down" is likely to be given up.

HAVE YOU

Hot and dry skin?
Scalding sensations?
Swelling of the ankles?
Vague feelings of unrest?
Frothy or brick-dust fluids?
Acid stomach? Aching Loins?
Cramps, growing nervousness?
Strange soreness of the bowels?
Unaccountable languid feelings?
Short breath and pleuritic pains?
One-side headache? Backache?
Frequent attacks of the "blues"?
Fluttering and distress of the heart?
Albumen and tube casts in the water?
Fitful rheumatic pains and neuralgia?
Loss of appetite, flesh and strength?
Constipation alternating with looseness of the bowels?
Drowsiness by day, wakefulness at night?
Abundant pale, or scanty flow of dark water?
Chills and fever? Burning patches of skin? Then

YOU HAVE

BRIGHT'S DISEASE OF THE KIDNEYS.

The above symptoms are not developed in any order, but appear, disappear and reappear until the disease gradually gets a firm grasp on the constitution, the kidney-poisoned blood breaks down the nervous system, and finally pneumonia, diarrhoea, bloodlessness, heart disease, apoplexy, paralysis, or convulsions ensue and then death is inevitable. This fearful disease is not a rare one—**it is an every-day disorder, and claims more victims than any other complaint.**

It must be treated in time or it will gain the mastery. Don't neglect it. **Warner's SAFE Cure** has cured thousands of cases of the worst type, and it will cure you if you will use it promptly and as directed. It is the only specific for the universal

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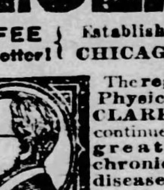

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☞ **Young men** and **middle-aged men** and **all** who suffer should consult the **celebrated** Dr. Clarke at once. ☞ **The terrible poisons of all bad blood** and **skin diseases** of every kind, name and nature completely eradicated. **Remember,** that **one horrible disease,** if neglected or improperly treated, **curses** the present and coming generations. ☞ **Diseased discharges** cured promptly without hindrance to business. Both sexes **consult confidentially. If in trouble,** call or write. Delays are dangerous. **"Procrastination is the thief of time." A written warranty of cure given in every case undertaken.**

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Market Column.

Financial.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE, }
WEDNESDAY, Feb. 17, 1885. }

The following is the statement of the New York banks for the week ending Saturday:

Loans, increase	$4,805,000
Specie, decrease	2,101,000
Legal tenders, decrease	617,000
Deposits, increase	2,622,000
Circulation, decrease	54,000
Reserve, decrease	3,374,000

The banks now hold $51,614,000 in excess of legal requirements.

To-day's reports up to the latest hour by telegraph to the BLADE say money is loaning at 1 ℔ cent. Bar silver, 106⅛. Stocks steady.

Government bonds — 3s, 101¼; 4½s, 112⅝; 4s, 122¼; Pacific 6s, of '95. 125.

The following will show the change in Government bonds during the past week:

	Feb. 17.	Feb. 10.
4½'s coupons	112⅝	112½
4's coupons	122⅛	121¾
3½s registered	101¼	101⅝
Pacific 6's, '95	125	125

TRADE.

The past week has not shown marked increase in general business. Cold weather and snow blockades have prevented many merchants from appearing at primary points to purchase goods.

THE MARKETS.

On Tuesday of last week No. 2 Red wheat was worth 79½c in this market: on Wednesday 80c was the price: on Thursday it stood at 79½; on Friday it marked 8 c: on Saturday it noted 79½c: and on Monday the value was 79⅞c, or an improvement of ⅜c within the week.

The grain markets of the United States, within the week just closed, exhibited dullness. The changes were within small limits and opening and closing values show no notable change. In this market No 2 Red Wheat, regular, is ⅝c higher as compared with that of a week since. For future delivery there was no change, April opening at 82c, and closing at the same price, and May at 83¼c. with the same figures ruling at the conclusion of the week's business. Rumors of winter killed wheat had no effect upon the market, as dealers are aware that wheat north of the latitude of Cairo is covered with snow, which prevents the roots of the wheat from sustaining injury. So long as there is an absence of bare ground and sudden changes in the atmosphere wheat will not be harmed. The critical period for wheat will soon come, and when it does there will no doubt be a strong upward tendency in wheat. Stocks of wheat at primary points are large, and as a result dealers are cautious, but when the industries of the country become more active there will be a greater tendency to purchase more freely than at present, which will result in a strengthening of values of grain. The greater the confidence, the greater will be the disposition of grain dealers to do business, as there will be a notable increase in the consumption of wheat under a more prosperous condition of the employers and employees of the country. Corn has held firmly, and shown an improvement of ¾ to 1c.

Toledo Market.

At to-day's session of the Toledo Produce Exchange there was a fairly active market for cash wheat. Prices were steady but a little higher. The exhibits of the visible supply of grain in the United States and Canada as sent out from New York and Chicago differ widely, so that in fact there is nothing in the situation to cause any alteration in values.

Sales No. 2 Red wheat to-day	10,500
" " " yesterday	1,500

No 2 soft Red Lake Shore Wheat, 85¾c, ¼c up; No 2 soft Red Wabash Wheat, 84c, no change; No 4 Red Wheat, 72½c.

For future delivery there was a good volume of business in No. 2 Red wheat, May being the favorite. Prices were steady for March and April and a little irregular for May, closing with but slight alteration.

	Feb. bu.	Mar. bu.	Apr. bu.	May. bu.	June. bu.
Sales to-day	....	35000	7000	122000	....
Sales yesterday	....	....	25000	76000	....

Seller March, 79½c; seller April, 82c, same as before; seller May, 83c, rose to 83⅝c, fell to 83¼c, and closed at 83⅜c, ⅛c improved.

Cash Corn sold freely. Values steady but firm and a little higher.

Sales cash corn to-day	20,000 bu
Sales cash corn yesterday	19,500 bu

No. 2 corn, 43c regular and Wabash, ¼c advance; No. 3 corn. 42¾c, ½c up; No. 3 yellow corn, 43c; No. 3 white corn, 42¾c. For future delivery none sold.

Oats—Neglected.

Clover Seed—No sales, nominally $5.00 for prime, cash and February.

Dressed Hogs—Sales 37 head at $5.75, for all weights.

General Produce.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 16—Wheat—Market quiet; No 2 red cash, 62⅝c bid, 63c asked; February —c; March 63c bid, 63⅜c asked; May, 65½c bid; 65¾c asked. Corn—Market quiet; cash, 30⅞c; February, —c; March, 30c bid, 30½c asked; May, 31c bid, 31⅜c asked. Oats—26½c bid.

BUFFALO, Feb. 17.—Wheat quiet; No. 1 hard spring nominal at 94c, February; sales No. 2 red winter, 90c March; 90½c May; 89¾c April. Corn scarce: sales cars on track at 47½c for No. 2 mixed; No. 2 yellow, —c. Oats nominal at 35c on track.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 17.—Wheat firm; No. 2, 77¾c; February, 77⅜c; March, 78c; April, 78⅝c; May, 83⅜c. Corn firm; No 2, 38¼c. Oats strong; No 2, 28c. Rye higher; No 1, 66½c. Barley steady; No 2, 51¼c; extra No 3, —c.

DETROIT, Feb. 17.—Wheat dull but steady; No. 1 white, 87½c cash; —c February; 89½ March; 90c April; 91½c May; No. 2 Red, 86⅞c cash; —c February; March, 87½c; April, 89c; May, 90½; No. 3 Red, 77c; Michigan soft red, —c. Corn—No 2, cash, 42¾c. Oats—Light mixed, 32½c; No 2 white, 33½c; No 2, 32c.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 17.—Flour quiet and unchanged; family, $3 5 @3 95; fancy, $4 10@4 50. Wheat scarce and firm at 86@87c. Corn strong and higher; No 2 mixed, 44@44½c. Oats steady at 33c. Rye quiet and firm at 72@73c. Barley firm and unchanged; extra No 3 fall at 86c. Pork firm; at $13 50. Lard stronger at $7 10. Bulk meats steady and unchanged at $5 12½@6 75. Bacon steady and unchanged at $6 00@7 50@7 75. Whisky dull and nominal at 113c.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 16.—Flour quiet; Ohio and Inidana, $4 00@4 75; Western and Pennsylvania superfine, $2 50@2 75; do extra, $2 75@3 12½; Pennsylvania family, $3 10@3 87½; St. Louis and Southern Illinois, $4 00@4 75; winter patent, $4 75@5 25; Minnesota patent bakers, $4 00@5 00; spring patent, $5 00@5 75. Rye flour quiet at $3 25@4 50. Wheat dull and firm; No. 1 red Pennsylvania, —c; No. 2 red, February, 88¼@88¾c. Corn quiet and firm; No. 3 mixed and yellow, 50½c; steamer No 2 mixed, —c; steamer No 2 yellow, 51½@52c; No 3 high mixed and yellow, 52c Oats—buyers holding; ; No. 2 mixed, 36c; No. 3 white, 36@36½c; No. 2 white, 37@37½c; No. 1 white, 38¼c.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 17.—Flour—Steady and quiet. Wheat—Western firmer and quiet; No 2 winter red spot, 89½@89¾c; February, 89½c; March 89¾@89⅞c; May, 93¼@93⅜c. Corn—Western, firmer and fairly active; mixed spot, 49½@49⅝c; February, 49¼@49½c; March, 48@48½c. Oats—steady and firm; western white, 37@38c; mixed, 34@36c. Rye—Steady at 73@75c. Provisions quiet and steady. Eggs firmer at 21@22. Copper, refined, steady at 10¾@11c. Whisky quiet at 120@121c. Other articles unchanged. Freights to Liverpool quiet; cotton, 7-32d; flour, 1s 6d; grain at 4d.

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—Wheat—Market firm and higher; 78⅞c cash and February; 78⅞c March; 79½c bid April; 84⅜@84½c May. Corn—Active and strong; 38c bid February; 38¼c bid March; 38⅜c bid April; 41¾c asked May. Oats higher; 27⅜c February; 27⅜c March; 27⅞c April; 31¾c May. Rye at 62½c, February. Barley—Nothing doing. Flax seed nominal at 147@148c. Pork higher; $13 15 February and March; $13 25 April; $13 37½ May. Lard higher $7 10 February; $7 10 March; $7 17½ April; $7 25 May. Whisky at 115c.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Flour—Sales, 9,000 bbls; market quiet and steady. Wheat—Market a shade lower and later strengthened and advanced ¼@¾c, without leading much activity; No 1 White, nominal; sales 48,000 bu No. 2 Red, March, 90⅝@91c; 32,000 bu do April, 92⅛@92½c; 248,000 bu do May, 93¾@94½c; 96,000 bu do June, 94¾@95½c. Corn—Market ¼@⅜c higher; mixed western spot, 50@53½c; futures, 49⅛@52⅜c; sales, 728,000 bu. Oats—market better; western, 36@40c; sales, 25,000 bu. Beef quiet and unchanged; new extra mess, $11 00@11 50. Pork firm; new mess, $14 25. Lard—prime weak and later firmer; steam rendered at $7 35. Butter firm; western, 10@36c. Cheese firm at 1@13c. Sugar quiet and steady. Molasses dull. Petroleum firm. Rice steady. Coffee quiet. Freights firm. Turpentine dull at 30¼@30½c. Rosin quiet at $1 22½@1 27½. Tallow firm at 6¼@6 5-16c for western. Eggs firm at 28c.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 17. Flour unchanged. Wheat higher but inactive, closing ¼@⅜c above yesterday; No. 2 red, 86¼@86⅝c cash; —c February; 87⅛@87⅜c March; 91¾@92⅛c, closing at 92@92⅛c May. Corn higher and more doing, closing at ¼@⅜c above yesterday; 37@37⅛c cash; 37⅛c February; 36¾@37c March; 37⅛@37⅜c April; 37⅜@37⅝c May. Oats—Higher but slow; 30c cash; 29½c February; —c May; —c June. Rye—Firm at 65c. Barley quiet at 60@80c. Lead dull and lower at $3 40@3 45. Butter unchanged. Eggs unchanged. Flax Seed steady at $1 40. Hay unchanged at $10 00@11 00; timothy, $12 00@15 00. Bran unchanged at 59@60c. Corn meal firm at $2 25. Whisky steady at 114c. Provisions steady but inactive; Pork at $13 37½. Bulk meats—long clear, $6 55; short rib, $6 60; short clear, $6 90. Bacon—Long clear, $7 05@7 12½; short rib, $7 25; short clear, $7 40@7 45. Lard at $6 95@7 00. Hogs—Market weak and lower; Yorkers, $4 50@4 70; packing, 4 50@4 75; heavy, $4 80@5 00; receipts, 7,000 head; shipments, 900 head. Cattle—Slow and unchanged; exports, $5 85@6 20; good to choice, $5 25@5 80; to cooice, $5 25@5 80. Receipts, 900 head.

Live Stock Markets.

EAST LIBERTY, Feb. 16—Cattle—Fair and a shade stronger; receipts, 2,556 head; shipments, 1,615 head. Hogs—Market dull; receipts, 6,330 head; shipments, 2,400 head; Philadelphias, $5 30@5 40; Yorkers, $5 00@5 15. Sheep—Market active, a shade stronger and unchanged; receipts 4,200 head; shipments, 2,000 head.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 9.—Cattle—Market fair; receipts, head; extremes, $——; prime, $6 00@6 75; medium, $4 25@5 00; good, $5 25@5 75; common, $3 00@4 00. Sheep—Market fair; receipts, 12,000 head; prime, $5 50@5 75; good, $4 75@5 25; medium, $3 25@4 41; common, $2 75@3 25; lambs, $4 00@7 25; a veryfew at $——. Hogs—Market slow; receipts, 4,200 head; selling at $6 50@7 50.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 16.—Cattle—Market very dull and ¼@⅜c lower; best beeves, $5 67½@6 00; first quality, $5 00@5 62½; medium, $3 50@4 75; ordinary, $2 50@3 25, most sales at $4 00@5 62½; receipts, 1,390 head; sales, 830 head. Swine—Light supply and market fair and in good demand at $6 25@7 25; receipts, 4,342 head. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 2,200 head; sheep, $2 50@5 50; lambs, $3 59@6 00.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 16.—Cattle—Receipts, 1,100 head; market weak and 10c lower; exports, $5 30@5 50; good to choice shipping, $4 90@5 20; common to medium, $4 50@4 85 feeders, $3 30@4 25; cows, $2 50@3 30. Hogs—Receipts, 9,500 head; market slow and 10@15c lower; lots averaging 185 to 340 lbs, $4 35@4 95; mainly $4 50@4 60. Sheep—Receipts, 2,300 head; market quiet at $2 40@3 15 for fair to good.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Beeves—Receipts, 2,630 head; all for market except 5 car loads; declined 25c and closed dull and weak; 25 car loads unsold; common to prime native steers, $5 00@5 60; extra do, $7@7 25, with 4 premium bullocks at $7 40@8 00; car loads of corn fed Texas steers, $9 25@9 75. Sheep—Receipts, 1,470 head; common and medium very dull; good and prime barely steady; sheep, $3 50@6 00; lambs, $5 00@7 00; clearance not made. Hogs—Receipts, 7,100 head, nearly all slaughterers' direct; good corn fed western wanted at $5 50.

CHICAGO, Feb. 16—Hogs—Receipts, 18,000 head; shipments, ——head; general market slow and steady; rough packing, $4 40@4 70; packing and shipping, $4 75@5 10; skips, $3 50@4 40. Cattle—Receipts, 6,500 head; shipments, —— head; the eastern roads are refusing to take stock on account of bad weather; market slow; exports, $5 90@6 25; shipping steers, 1,300 to 1,500 lbs, $5 25@5 75; 1,100 to 1,200 lbs, $4 75@5 25; 1,000 to 1,200 lbs, $4 00@5 00; common to good, $——@——; Texans, $4 20@4 60. Sheep—Receipts, 2,200 head; shipments, —— head; market steady; inferior to fair, $——; common to medium, $2 40@3 75; good, $4 00@4 25; choice to extra, $4 50@5 00.

The Liverpool cablegram to the *Drovers' Journal* reports cattle dull; best American cattle 13½c ℔ lb. dressed.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 16.—Hogs—Market quiet; common and light, $3 90@5 05; packing and butchers, $4 70@5 35; receipts, 2,864 head; shipments, 987 head.

Cattle—Receipts light; feeders and stockers sell readily; common, $2 00@3 00; fair to medium, $3 25@4 00; good to choice butcher grades, $4 25@5 00; some extra, $5 10@5 25; common to fair shippers, —; good to choice cows, $4 00@4 60; good to choice heifers $4 45@4 85; fair to good dairy cows, $3 50@4 25; some extra, $4 40@4 75; common to fair oxen, $2 50@3 50; good to choice, $4 00@5 00; common to fair shippers, $5 50@5 25 good to choiced, $5 40@6 00; stockers, $3 75@4 50; some extra, $4 75@5 00; some light yearlings and calves, $2 50@3 50. Sheep—Increased receipts, demand fair; common to fair, $2 50@3 25; good to choice, $3 50@4 25; some extra wethers, $4 50@5 00; culls, $1 50@2 25. Lambs—Receipts light; ready sale; common to fair, $3 00@4 00; good to choice, $4 25@5 00; some extra at $5 25@5 50.

BUFFALO, Feb. 16.—Cattle—Receipts, 445 head; consigned through, 78 cars, of which 59 went to New York yesterday and 8 go to-day; market dull and weak, and prices fully 35@50c lower; extra steers, 1,350 to 1,500 lbs, $5 75@6 25; choice shipping steers, 1,200 to 1,300 lbs, $5 20; fair to medium, 1,000 to 1,200 lbs, $4 15@4 80; light butcher grades, $3 65@4 25; oxen, common to fair, $3 50@4 25; mixed butchers, $3 00@4 00; common to prime bulls, $4 25@4 50. Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, 8,000 head; consigned through 19 cars; market dull and lower; common to fair sheep, $3 25@3 80; good to choice, $4 00@4 30; extra, $4 40@4 80; western lambs, $3 75@6 00; quite a number of sheep held over. Hogs—Receipts, 8,500 head; consigned through, 85 cars, of which 17 went to New York yesterday and 8 to-day; market dull and prices a shade lower for Yorkers and light grades; good to choice Yorkers, $5 25@5 40; good mediums, $4 40@4 55; good to choice heavy, $5 50@5 60; pigs, $4 90@5 00, but very dull; several loads held over.

Snaps.

The manufacture of artificial ivory from bones and scraps of sheepskin is a new industry.

Cuban planters cannot get their money back by selling their molasses, and so are utilizing it on their estates as manure.

In preparing the rich dish of terrapin, Baltimoreans take live terrapins and let them swim about in cold water until they are perfectly clean. The terrapins are then plunged into boiling water, and boiled until the shells are loosened. They are taken out of the water and removed from the shells, when they are stewed with a mixture of hard-boiled eggs, cream, butter, Madeira wine, flour, salt, and other condiments.

The New York Produce Exchange Weekly gives the following as the United States acreage of cereals for a series of years:

	Wheat.	Maize.	Oats.
1884	39,475,885	69,683,780	21,300,917
1883	36,455,593	68,301,889	20,324,962
1882	37,067,194	65,659,546	18,494,691
1881	37,709,020	64,262,025	16,831,600
1880	37,986,717	62,317,842	16,187,977
1879	32,545,950	53,085,450	12,683,500
1878	32,108,560	51,585,000	13,176,500
1877	26,277,546	50,369,113	12,826,168
1876	27,627,021	49,033,364	13,358,908
1875	26,381,512	44,841,371	11,915,075

The New York Produce Exchange Weekly has the following, showing the visible supply of grain, comprising the stocks in granary at the principal points of accumulation, at lake and seaboard ports, for the week ending January 31, 1885:

	Wheat bu.	Corn bu	Oats bu.	Barley bu.
T'l Feb. 7, '85	43535936	7359583	3001136	1666424
T'l Jan 31, '85	40653259	6338113	2532108	1628009
T'l Jan. 24, '85	42576703	5411463	2580443	1725335
T'l Feb. 9, '84	32131941	14853219	5311487	2539090
T'l Feb. 10, '83	22186094	10576753	4050082	1939054

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"NASBY IN EXILE, by mail, postpaid,	$2.60
"NASBY IN EXILE," and the Blade one year,	2.75

"ANDERSONVILLE," A Story of Southern Prisons. By John McElroy. "Andersonville," like Nasby in Exile, was never sold except by subscription, at $3.00. No book published for years had such a sale, and no book ever created a more profound sensation. Mr. McElroy (formerly associate editor of the BLADE) was for 18 months in Andersonville and the other prisons of the South, and his history of those hells upon earth is the only correct one ever written. In addition to its value as a history, it is written in a style that makes the terrible story as fascinating as a novel. Over 50,000 have been sold at the original price. We have withdrawn it from the subscription trade and offer it as follows:

"ANDERSONVILLE," by mail, postpaid,	$2.00
"ANDERSONVILLE," and the Weekly Blade one year,	2.75

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IV—Busy Workers. The Salivary Glands. Quantity of Saliva Used.
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